Hafa Adai!

DPL remits $567K to MPLT. PAGE 3
NWS expects no typhoon on Aug. 22. PAGE 5

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Tax refunds still delayed

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Ideally, tax refunds and rebates should be released by the end of May or in early June. However, a month and a half after June, the Finance Department has yet to release the tax refunds for fiscal year 2018 and there is still no definite word on when those checks will start flowing.

According to Finance Secretary David Atalig in a statement, the tax refunds for fiscal year 2018 are "still in process."

"…We are working on our fourth batch of child tax rebates. As for tax refunds, we are identifying funds so we can do our best to release them as soon as we can," Atalig told *Saipan Tribune*.

Last July 11, 2019, the Finance Department told *Saipan Tribune* that they were still finalizing the

See TAX on Page 4

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SHOPPING

Jamie Bocago from Koblerville, far left, and her sisters check out school supplies for sale at National Office Supply. The typical back-to-school rush that comes with the start of classes appears to be off to a slow start.

BEA CABRERA

Story on Page 17

Bill amending MPLT loan glides thru Senate

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

A House bill that amends the law that authorizes the CNMI government to secure a loan from the Marianas Public Land Trust—which had just been introduced at the House of Representatives last Friday—took just six days to zoom past the Senate yesterday afternoon.

On a vote of 6-1, House Bill 21-71 passed the Senate yesterday, with only Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) voting against the measure. Both Sens. Francisco Cruz

See BILL on Page 4

CCC sees no problem in granting IPI request

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission sees no problem with the CNMI Lottery Commission granting Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's request to allow IPI to include the number of hotel rooms its partner-investors would build to the number of rooms IPI is required to build.

Deleon Guerrero

The commission also has no problem with the Lottery Commission granting IPI's request to reduce from 51% to 10% the required stake for the majority shareholder controlling interest in IPI. That would allow the casino investor to sell company shares and raise capital.

CCC executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said in an interview Tuesday that the two requests are authorized under Public Law 18-56, the

See CCC on Page 4

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Shinsen Sushi always counts locals as its No. 1 customers in the 15 years it has existed.
PAGE 18

SCIENCE & TECH
European cities are searching for solutions to the two-wheeled phenomenon: Electric scooters.
PAGE 22

LIFE & STYLE
Forty years later, "Apocalypse Now" has never looked so good.
PAGE 24

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Local

‘Injunction cannot be entered in absence of irreparable harm’

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

In opposing Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC’s emergency motion for stay and for an injunction pending appeal, the Commonwealth Casino Commission said that an injunction cannot be granted in the absence of irreparable harm—as decided by the District Court for the NMI over a week ago.

Christopher M. Timmons from the Office of the Attorney General argued that IPI should be denied an injunction pending their appeal based on the first two factors: likelihood of success on the merits and irreparable harm.

“The first two factors the court considers in these circumstances are the most critical. Here, appellant has failed to demonstrate both likelihood of success on the merits and irreparable harm. On these grounds, the motion must be denied,” Timmons said.

Timmons further argued that IPI failed to provide the

See INJUNCTION on Page 4

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DPL remits $567K to MPLT

Public Lands Secretary Marianne Concepcion-Teregeyo announced Thursday the remittance of $567,508 to the Marianas Public Land Trust, representing money collected from current land leases.

"The Department of Public Lands has strengthened its policies and enforcement for all public land leases and has diligently collected funds due from the leasing of public lands. We are working more collaboratively with all lessees and stakeholders to continue the timely collections and remittance to MPLT," she said.

Since the creation of DPL in 2006, the department has transferred a total of $20.9 million to MPLT.

Since 2016, under the Torres administration, $12,416,932 has been remitted to the public land trust. MPLT has recognized that this is the highest amount ever remitted by an administration in CNMI history.

"Under the fiscal year 2018 independent audit conducted by Deloitte and Touche, due to MPLT was $6,327,685. DPL has made this a priority and already transferred a majority. Today, this administration remitted the remaining due to MPLT," said Concepcion-Teregeyo.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said that DPL's improved policies and regulations, as well as the completion of its comprehensive land use plan, provides better guidance for public land use, inclusive of current developments and future plans.

"We have identified comprehensive land use opportunities that affect our natural resources, our overall infrastructure, economy, and our way of life. With the proper guidance, the remittance of revenues from current land lessees increases the financial stability of MPLT and the viability of MPLT's investments for the benefit of our people of Northern Marianas descent," Torres said.

For more information on DPL remittances, log on to www.dpl.gov.mp. ***(PR)***

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NEW UFO PRESIDENT
Honorary Philippine consul Eli Arago, left, swears in Mar Villegas Masilungan, right, as the new president of the United Filipino Organizations, at the third floor of the Joy Apartment in Garapan. Masilungan replaces Gerry DeGuzman, who has resigned as UFO president after relocating to the U.S. mainland. Other photo shows the other UFO officers and organization representatives. UFO is the umbrella organization of the Filipino community in the CNMI.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BILL

From Page 1

(R-Tinian) and Justo Quitugua (R-Saipan) were absent from the session.

House Speaker Blas Jonathan "B.J." Attao's (R-Saipan) H.B. 21-71 seeks to amend how the MPLT loan would be undertaken between the CNMI government through the Governor's Office and the Department of Finance.

Mangloña later told *Saipan Tribune* that he voted against the measure because there has been no response from the office of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres since he sent him a four-page letter last June 12, 2019, that raised several questions about the state of the CNMI government's finances.

"I cannot in good conscience support this legislation," Mangloña said. "It's been more than two months since I sent my letter pertaining to our financial crisis and they have not responded even after many follow ups."

Manglona stressed that, based on his letter, he just wants to hear from the Department of Finance and the Casino Lottery Commission about the status of the Community Chest Fund as required of the casino operator and the casino license renewal fee.

"They [Lottery Commission] keep approving amendments to the casino license agreement without requiring that Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC meet at least these financial commitments," he added.

Department of Commerce Secretary Mark Rabauliman, who is also the Lottery Commission chair, told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview last Tuesday that the Lottery Commission only has authority over the contract between IPI and the CNMI government. He added that the commission is unable to enforce it because that would be the Commonwealth Casino Commission's jurisdiction.

H.B. 21-71 amends the parameters of the MPLT loan. If passed, the legislation would allow the initial five-year time frame of the loan to be longer if agreed to. Attao told *Saipan Tribune* in a previous interview that the language originated from the Office of the Attorney General.

He further noted that Public Law 21-3, or the law that authorizes the CNMI to start negotiating a public debt in the form of an MPLT loan, was enacted with the understanding that the legislature will pass a bill amending PL 21-3 to the preferences of the OAG.

TAX

From Page 1

tax refund numbers to ensure minimal errors and are set to release them once "local funding is identified."

Atalig noted yesterday that the delay is caused by the government's large expenditure for Super Typhoon Yutu recovery as well as the dip in tax collections that followed the typhoon, which drained a large chunk of the general fund.

"Unfortunately, it is caused by the huge amount expended for the response and recovery from Super Typhoon Yutu and the slow process of getting reimbursed by [the Federal Emergency Management Agency]. Also, as we know, our revenue collections were hampered and we had to adjust our budget for [fiscal year] 2019," he said.

Unlike child tax rebates, which are federally funded, Atalig noted that tax refunds come from the general fund.

This year's total tax rebate and refunds amount to nearly $21 million, $11 million of which are child tax rebates. Last year, there were a total of $26 million in total tax rebate and refunds, with over $8 million in child tax rebates.

"[I am] asking for the patience and understanding of all our CNMI taxpayers, as the administration is doing its best to secure funding for the release of all tax rebates and refunds. It is a priority to get these funds into the hands of families so that it can assist them in their financial needs, as we are still all recovering from Super Typhoon Yutu," Atalig told *Saipan Tribune* in a previous statement.

Since July 2, 2019, the Finance Department has been releasing child tax rebates as they become available and when Finance obtains the authority to drawdown the funds.

CCC

From Page 1

Saipan casino gaming law, or the casino license agreement.

He said the Lottery Commission received several of IPI's requests for amendments last month and the commission entertained only two of IPI's requests at that time.

One request, Deleon Guerrero said, was to allow IPI to count the number of hotel rooms built by their investor-partner toward the number of rooms that is required of IPI.

"So, assuming that on Phase 1, they partner up with, let's say for discussion purposes, Sheraton or Four Seasons. And Sheraton builds about 800 rooms, for example. They are asking the Lottery Commission if they can count that 800 rooms from the 2,000 rooms required by the law," he said.

The Saipan casino gaming law requires IPI to build 2,000 new hotel rooms.

The other IPI's request was to allow it to reduce its mandatory minimum ownership from 51% to no less than 10%.

He said the Lottery Commission gave its chairman the authority to negotiate with IPI and work with the attorney general and, he believes, with the Governor's Office, to come up with final language.

Deleon Guerrero said that last Monday, the Lottery Commission chairman presented IPI's requests to the Lottery Commission, which then ratified amendments to the casino license agreement.

He said it basically granted IPI the authority to count the hotel rooms of 4- to 5-star quality in Phase 1 of the integrated resort of their partners toward IPI's total.

Second, IPI's partner is allowed to reduce its mandatory minimum ownership to no less than 10%, Deleon Guerrero said.

He said that based on their understanding of IPI, they do not have history of running hotels, so it makes sense to bring in the trained hoteliers, whether its Sheraton or Four Seasons, or any big 4- or 5-star hotels.

"It makes sense to bring in the hotels that are reputable, world-renowned, trained. We see no problem [with that]," he said.

Deleon Guerrero said the only thing that they want to make sure is that IPI must still maintain the gaming; they cannot relinquish that.

INJUNCTION

From Page 2

Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit with enough portions of the record so it could make a meaningful review of the District Court for the NMI's decision.

"Appellant's incomplete filing could thus be dismissed out of hand," he said.

Citing procedural deficiencies, Timmons said that IPI's arguments are meritless.

Timmons added that IPI has not cited any case which conflicts with the District Court for the NMI's decision to deny the original request for preliminary injunction or would mandate reversal.

"To justify a stay pending appeal of a lower court's decision, 'the applicant must meet a heavy burden of showing…that the judgement of the lower court was erroneous on the merits. IPI has not done anything of the kind here," Timmons said.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has temporarily prohibited the CCC from disclosing IPI's confidential income tax information that is subject of a legal dispute.

NWS expects no typhoon on Aug. 22

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam, officially shot down speculation of a typhoon hitting the region on Aug. 22, but says that activity within the Marianas vicinity will continue.

According to an NWS statement, the agency has been made aware of speculations of a typhoon is expected to hit the Marianas on Aug. 22, based on a long-term numerical weather forecast model. Fortunately, NWS said that their numerical guidance currently shows no weather threats for Guam and the CNMI.

"That model depicted a tropical cyclone in the area that could have been a threat to the islands around Aug. 22. Numerical models are typically run every six hours, compiling data and observations to provide the best forecast at that time. Subsequent model runs may show a similar long-range forecast, or they may differ significantly. Numerical guidance currently shows no significant weather threats to Guam or the CNMI around Aug. 22," NWS stated.

NWS said, however, that they are still seeing signs of possible development in the region, especially in the long-range.

"We will see this in model forecasts the next several months as is typical this time of year," NWS stated.

NWS would like to assure the community that the NWS Guam office operates daily and is watching every disturbance in the region that could be an issue for anyone in Guam, the CNMI, Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands. "If we see there is a significant weather threat to anyone in the region, we will make it known," NWS added.

NWS' current forecast shows that local weather is under the influence of a weak circulation located southeast of Guam and it is affecting the entire Marianas. The circulation is not expected to develop significantly within the area.

However, showers and thunderstorms will prevail along the northern periphery of this circulation while a few showers and thunderstorms are expected on Tinian and Saipan, with the bulk of the action seen near and south of Rota.

Surf also remains hazardous along west- and north-facing reefs of Guam and the CNMI. Large swell from a distant Tropical Storm Krosa continues to subside across the region but these swell are still capable of generating hazardous surf of 8 to 10 feet along west- and north-facing exposures. The risk of rip currents remains high and is capable of producing life-threatening rip currents.

Hofschneider confident budget will be out soon

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With roughly a month and a half remaining before the fiscal year ends on Sept. 30, 2019, Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) is confident that a fiscal year 2020 budget bill will be out of the Legislature and in the hands of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres before the deadline.

The Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, which Hofschneider chairs, adopted the fiscal year 2020 budget bill yesterday.

Introduced in the House of Representatives last June 27 by House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan), House Bill 21-64 now awaits full Senate action.

"I am very confident…that the appropriation bill for fiscal year 2020 will be out of the Legislature [soon]," Hofschneider told *Saipan Tribune*. "We passed [the budget bill] and we are going to entertain it in our next session."

Hofschneider does not expect any more amendments to the bill when the Senate discusses and acts on it at their session on Aug. 21, 2019.

Blanco told *Saipan Tribune* that he is pleased to hear that his budget bill has already left the Senate committee.

"[House Speaker Blas Jonathan "B.J." Attao (R-Saipan)] had advised that the Ways and Means Committee work closely with the Senate [committee] to have the budget passed before the fiscal year ends and move it to forward for Governor Torres' review and approval," he said.

"Most importantly, we want to bring back 80 hours and settle any outstanding obligations and services affected by the austerity measures put in place during the current fiscal year," he added.

Torres lauds FEMA, fed partners for disaster relief appropriation

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres thanked federal partners last week for working with CNMI leaders on the additional supplemental appropriations for recovery projects and programs listed under H.R. 2157, which was recently signed into law by President Donald J. Trump.

At the recent Federal Emergency Management Agency Region IX Pacific Partnership Meeting in Hawaii, Torres was invited by FEMA to speak on resiliency in the Pacific, as well as the ongoing recovery efforts on Saipan and Tinian.

"FEMA has been such an instrumental partner throughout this whole recovery effort, and they have worked directly with us to make our case with our other federal partners, Congress, and the White House to bring additional funds to the Marianas to rebuild stronger and better," Torres said.

Under H.R. 2157, the CNMI specifically received $25.2 million for disaster nutrition assistance through fiscal year 2020 to provide more food assistance for families still recovering during this time.

In addition to $36 million in Medicaid funding, the CNMI also received $2 million in technical assistance from the Office of Insular Affairs, $56 million for hazardous waste financial assistance and solid waste management, and $10.4 million for drinking water facilities and water treatment plants.

Under the supplemental appropriation, the CNMI became eligible for a share of about $11.4 billion that is to be divided by states and territories affected by hurricanes Florence, Michael, and Lane, as well as Typhoon Mangkhut, and Super Typhoon Yutu. The CNMI is eligible under appropriations available for Yutu and Mangkhut.

Torres noted that the CNMI and FEMA have already begun plans and discussions on new project worksheets and other resources to avail of funding under the shared disaster fund.

"Lt. Gov. [Arnold] Palacios and I have mobilized our department heads and first responders to dedicate grant managers, teams, and staff to these grant applications, so that we can maximize the amount of available federal funding for our recovery," Torres said.

"These projects will be toward new infrastructure, medical facilities, training and employment, family assistance, and so much more to help the Marianas recover," he said. "We have a great partnership with FEMA and our federal partners, and our government continues to work very hard to build our beautiful islands stronger and better." ***(PR)***

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Lawmaker donates traditional fishing gear

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

IVA MAURIN
CNMI Representative Marco Peter donates fishing gear to participants of the CAO Youth Clinic for Traditional Fishing.

Participants of the Carolinian Affairs Office's summer camp were the lucky recipients yesterday of 10 sets of fishing gear donated by Rep. Marco Peter (R-Saipan) to promote traditional fishing knowledge among the youth.

Each set was composed of a pair of boots, snorkel with a mask, and a triton Hawaiian sling or traditional spear.

"This is my gift to them," said Peter at the turnover of his donation in Garapan.

He said the camp participants had the choice to just be stuck on their smartphones or just stay at home but he was impressed that "they're taking the time to take two weeks to just go and stand the heat and get sunburned to learn how to fish."

Peter said he is very proud of the participant, who are learning about the types and size of fish to catch, and how to respect coral reefs. Paraphrasing a quote from the Bible, Peter said: "You feed them a fish, they might choke on the bones. But if you teach them how to fish, they won't starve. They are set. This is not just in fishing but in life. When they grow up, they will be more responsible. They will be able to fish for themselves."

One of the participants, Amu Itibus, who is a sophomore at Marianas High School, said he joined the camp to learn the traditional ways of fishing. "I plan to use this type of fishing after the camp [and] pass it down to people who don't know. I am thankful that [Peter] lent out a hand because…we're short on equipment," he said.

CAO executive director John Tagabuel said the camp is a way to touch base with teenagers and teach them the basics and importance of, and safety in fishing. Campers are taught how to identify fish, where to find them, when is the best time to go fishing, and even how easy it is to get into danger when in open water.

Tagabuel said that the Coastal Resource Management and CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife taught the participants how to fish responsibly.

"Everybody is just…busy watching their phones…staying online…and not being with the environment like going out fishing or hunting. With the summer camp, we took away the technology part and made sure that they see the importance of why we do things the way we do. … We want to make sure that we pass on this traditional type of fishing to our next generation so that even they can pass it on to the next," Tagabuel said.

The next activity is the lavalava-making, or traditional Carolinian dress making, set to be held in September, in celebration of Heritage Month.

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MCS reboots SAT Boot Camp

After a brief hiatus, Mount Carmel School will once again offer its SAT Boot Camp. First offered in the fall of 2009, the six-week boot camp is designed to help students improve their performance on the College Board's SAT, a standardized test used for most college admissions in the United States. The school announced that the program has been updated to reflect recent changes in the SAT.

The program curriculum helps students master several skills necessary to do well on the test. These skills include analyzing and explaining how the test is designed and scored; learning and using effective test-taking strategies; and easing test-taking anxiety and increasing comfort and confidence by taking practice tests. Students will also review and refresh their content knowledge in English and math.

This year's SAT Boot Camp will run from Aug. 27 through Oct. 3, 2019, leading up to the Oct. 5, 2019, SAT examination. The Boot Camp is open to all high school students. The fee is $200 for Mount Carmel School students and $300 for those not enrolled at the school. Application forms are available at the MCS and online at the school's website, www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. Application forms and fees are due by Monday, Aug. 26, 2019.

Those who participated in previous boot camps have increased their SAT scores by an average of 200 points. In some cases, students have raised their scores by almost 400 points.

"The SAT Boot Camp is an extension of our school's commitment to preparing students for college," said Mount Carmel School president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero. "While we enhance our college-preparatory services, with additions like a dedicated academic adviser and a college-prep seminar curriculum for underclassmen, the SAT Boot Camp continues to make a huge difference in ensuring our students have what they need to succeed."

Last year, the College Board redesigned the SAT to increase the number of curriculum-based questions, revise the essay section, and refine how student performance on the test is scored. In turn, the school's SAT Boot Camp has been retooled to help students prepare for the new test. In addition, the program will continue offering proctored practice tests, which have been effective at improving student focus and persistence during the test.

For more information, call 234-6184 or email galvin.deleonguerrero@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Mount Carmel School president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, center, meets with reading and writing instructor Brittany Norris, left,) and math instructor Emmanuel Borja to discuss the school's plans to host an SAT Bootcamp. For more information, call 234-6184 or email galvin.deleonguerrero@gmail.com.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang poses yesterday with students participating in the 2019 Summer MBC Global Camp at the mayor's office.
MARC A. VENUS

38 Korean students visit Apatang's office

By MARC A. VENUS
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang presented certificates of appreciation yesterday to 38 students from South Korea, who did a beach cleanup last Saturday. The group visited Apatang's office yesterday.

The students performed separate beach cleanups at the Paupau Beach and the Sugar Dock Beach.

The students, who arrived on Saipan last July 3 and will be here until Sunday, are currently participating in the 2019 Summer MBC Global Camp.

According to one of the groups' chaperones, the group is composed of students from grades 2 to 7 and have been with the Northern Marianas International School at the Marianas Business Plaza for the entire month. This program is intended to help the students expand their grasp of the English language.

In their brief meeting with Apatang, the students asked him a couple of questions about the islands and his job as mayor.

Apatang said he hopes that the students learn a lot and bring their families the next time they come to Saipan.

The group is currently led by the SASAMO USA language school.

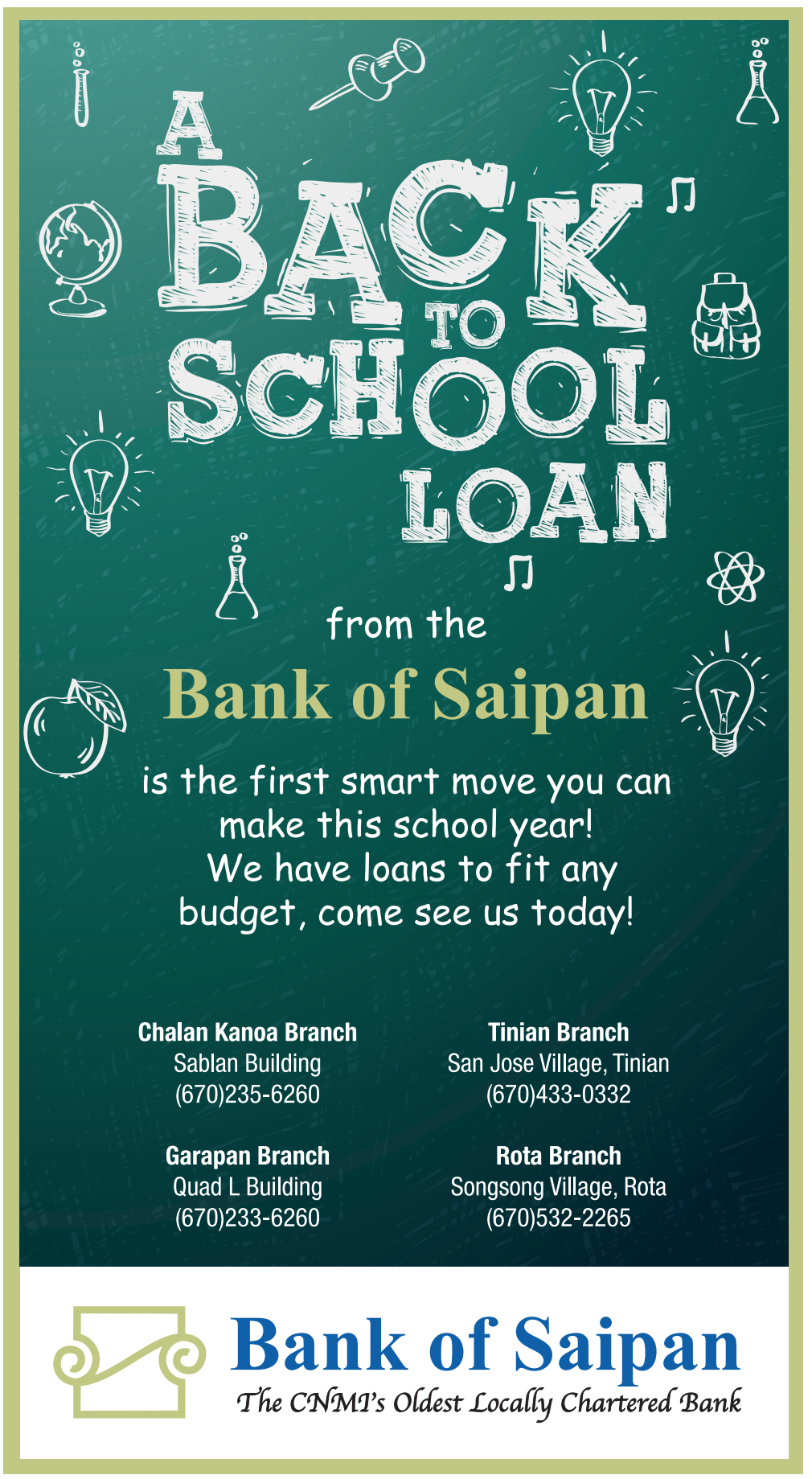
Rotary to move Tuesday meeting to Friday

The Rotary Club of Saipan's regular Tuesday meeting next week will be moved to Friday, Aug. 23, and will be held at the Pacific Island Club Saipan's Seaside Grill at 6pm.

According to Rotary Club president Marcia Ayuyu, the board of directors decided to move the meeting for accommodation purposes.

The meeting's usual venue is at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's.

Ayuyu asked club members to invite guests to join them, as they will also be participating in the Seaside Grill's Happy Hour, with food and beverages being 50% off from 6pm to 7pm. ***(Marc A. Venus)***



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Department of Labor

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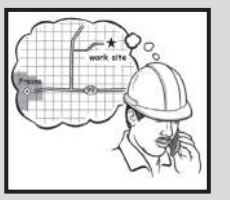

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For more information, please call CNMI-OSHA On-Site Consultation office at
Tel.: 664-3154/5/6/7 or
Email: Wallace Chong: wchongdolosha@gmail.com
Sidney Camacho: scamachodolosha@gmail.com

This ad is paid for by U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration

‘No processing time period for PWD issuances’

By ERWIN ENCINARES and MARC VENUS
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTERS

There is no required processing times for the issuance of the Prevailing Wage Determinations, or PWDs, according to CNMI Department of Labor representative Eugene Tebuteb.

Speaking at Wednesday’s Society for Human Resource Management NMI Chapter meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan ballroom, Tebuteb said: “There is no statutory or regulatory processing time requirement for issuing PWDs. The [U.S. Department of Labor] recognizes the importance of issuing out PWDs in an expeditious manner. The department recommends that employers file CW-1 prevailing wage requests at least 90 days before they are needed,” said Tebuteb, quoting information that they’ve obtained from USDOL.

In a bid to clear up some confusion regarding the Prevailing Wage Surveys and the Prevailing Wage Determinations, Tebuteb is encouraging CNMI employers to submit any questions they may have for the U.S. Department of Labor to his office, so he could forward them to the appropriate authorities.

Tebuteb said the U.S. DOL has so far received a total of 24 questions. He said that they are still taking questions from businesses about the entire process of hiring foreign workers and that the best way in order for them to resolve all the confusion regarding the process is to send the CNMI DOL their questions about the matter.

He said that SCC members will be receiving a copy of the answered questions from the USDOL. “You can give us a call… or you could email me your exact questions, so we can forward it to the USDOL,” he said.

He said the process will be expedited as his office has a direct link to the USDOL.

For more information, call the CNMI DOL division of employment services at (670) 664-3190 or (670) 322-0996, or email etebuteb.dol@gmail.com.

According to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, they previously noted that several companies on Saipan have also been experiencing massive delays for their Temporary Labor Certifications, or TLCs—to the point where employers fear losing their employees.

“Employers are fearful they will not be able to submit their completed CW renewal application by [Sept. 30, 2019] due to the delays in receiving the wage determination, TLCs, and the other processes needed for approval,” the Chamber noted in a statement in early August 2019.

The Chamber noted that, as of early August 2019, the organization has not learned of a single employer who has completed the USDOL-side of the CW-1 petition requirements.

“One employer who submitted 20 TLCs [has] only received one TLC. This took one month. Another submitted 40 and received one, another [submitted] 80 and received one,” the statement added.

In a separate statement to *Saipan Tribune*, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services noted that the 240-day extension for CW visa holders will only kick in if the renewal petition was submitted before the visa’s expiry and if USCIS is still pending a decision.

This means that employees whose CW renewal petitions are still in the USDOL stage would have to exit the CNMI come Oct. 1, 2019.

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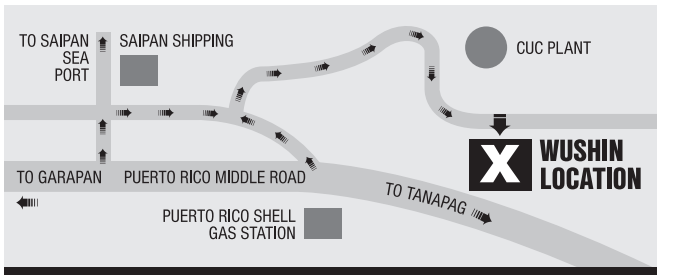

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8 rescued from vessel adrift in Pacific north of Palau

Eight mariners aboard a 60-foot Indonesian-flagged fishing vessel KM *Aleluya* (previously reported as *Hallelujar*) were rescued about 172 miles northwest of Palau last Tuesday.

The rescue was a collaboration the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Air Force, and good Samaritans aboard the vessel *Isl Star*, which is part of AMVER, or Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System.

"This is a great example of why teamwork is so vital to search and rescue operations in this region," said Lt. Jonathan Girot, Sector Guam public affairs officer. "Through the efforts of the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Air Force, Japan Coast Guard, and good Samaritans, we were able to quickly locate the KM *Aleluya* and coordinate a response to a dangerous situation."

The crew of the KM *Aleluya* was adrift for 10 days without electricity, food, and water. News of their predicament reached responders from the crew of the Japanese fishing vessel *Kinsei Maru No.3* who rescued a KM *Aleluya* mariner. When the KM *Aleluya* crew saw the *Kinsei Maru No.3*'s lights on the horizon, they launched the motorboat with one man aboard to seek help.

The crew of the *Kinsei Maru No.3* subsequently searched for the KM *Aleluya* but could not locate the vessel and departed due to worsening weather conditions. The rescued mariner stated there were no injuries or significant medical concerns among the KM *Aleluya*'s crew.

Sector Guam watchstanders issued a SafetyNet broadcast seeking the assistance of any mariners in the area and diverted the crews of the Coast Guard cutter *Kiska* from Palau and a forward-deployed Air Station Barbers Point HC-130 Hercules from Pohnpei to search. Watchstanders also contacted the U.S. Air Force for help who deployed a B-52 Stratofortress aircrew from the U.S. Air Force 36th Wing at Anderson Air Force Base, Guam, to assist.

"Because of the vast distances in the Pacific, often the closest help mariners have is each other," said Girot. "Sector Guam watchstanders were able to contact the crew of the AMVER vessel *Isl Star* who agreed to assist in the search. Once the *Hercules* aircrew arrived on the scene, they quickly located the KM *Aleluya* and dropped supplies to the crew. They then coordinated with the good Samaritans from the *Isl Star* who rescued the eight mariners without further incident."

AMVER, sponsored by the Coast Guard, is a computer-based, voluntary global ship reporting system used worldwide by search and rescue authorities. With AMVER, rescue coordinators can identify participating ships in the area of distress and divert the best-suited ship or ships to respond.

The crew of the *Isl Star* will disembark the KM *Aleluya*'s crew in Palau. The *Kiska* crew is currently en route to the abandoned ship's location to investigate the situation and consider options for the future of the vessel. ***(USCG)***

An Air Station Barbers Point HC-130 *Hercules* aircrew fly over the Indonesian fishing vessel KM *Aleluya* north of Palau on Aug. 14, 2019. The crew of the KM *Aleluya* was adrift for 10 days without electricity, food, and water before making contact and being rescued.

U.S. COAST GUARD/PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS MITCH HENDERSON

CPA to replace passenger loading bridges at Saipan airport

A Commonwealth Ports Authority project to replace three of its passenger loading bridges at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport is finally taking off.

CPA inked the contract for the project in January 2019 with the construction firm AIC Marianas, Inc. This project was designed in 2017, was advertised in 2018, and was slated for award prior to Super Typhoon Yutu. Because of the typhoon, though, the contract was not executed until January 2019.

The duration of this project is 580 days, and the project is being funded by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and CPA.

The project will be performed in two phases due to the intricacies of working on the aircraft parking apron and to ensure that flight operations are not hampered.

The first phase of the project consists of the contractor mobilizing, staging, and fabricating the three bridges, which are currently being manufactured by JBT in Utah.

The second phase of the project consists of the demolition of the three originally contracted bridges. However, due to Super Typhoon Yutu and safety concerns stemming from the damaged bridges, CPA has submitted a change order to the FAA to allow the contractor to demolish all six bridges. If approved, the contractor will then begin removal of all bridges.

Two bridges are scheduled to arrive on Saipan late this year, and the third bridge is scheduled to arrive on Saipan early next year. Once on Saipan, each bridge will take 100 days to install. The overall project completion is currently set for August 2020.

CPA is also currently in the procurement process of replacing the additional three loading bridges not included in the 2017 design. CPA is coordinating with an architectural/engineering consultant for the design of the additional three bridges and, once design is complete, the procurement process will move forward for actual replacement.

CPA appreciates the public's patience and understanding as it persists in getting Saipan airport back to full operational condition. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES

PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the general public that the Division of Youth Services under the auspices of the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs will be conducting a public hearing on its FY 2020 Consolidated Block Grant (CBG) State Plan under the authority of the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) - Title XX, as amended and codified at 42 U.S.C. §1397 et seq. on the following dates/time:

ISLAND	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Saipan	08/14/2019	5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Multi- Purpose Center
Tinian	08/20/2019	5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Tinian Youth Center
Rota	08/22/2019	2:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Mayor's Office

The basic programs and services implemented under the Consolidated Block Grant for the CNMI must accomplish one or more of the 5 National Goals:

1. Achieving or maintaining economic self- support to prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency. ***(Self- Support)***
2. Achieving or maintaining self- sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency. ***(Self- Sufficiency)***
3. Preventing or remedying neglect, abuse or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interest, or preserving, rehabilitating or reuniting families. ***(Protective Services)***
4. Preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing for community- based care, home- based care, or other forms of less intensive care. ***(Prevent Institutionalism)***
5. Securing referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate or providing services to individuals in institutions. ***(Appropriate Institutionalism)***

An electronic copy of the DYS FY 2020 Consolidated Block Grant State Plan may be viewed on the links provided below:

Division of Youth Services - www.dys.gov.mp
Governor's Office - www.gov.mp

Copies for the above State Plan may also be picked up at the Division of Youth Services Office located at the Chalan Piao Plaza, 1st Floor (adjacent to Bank of Guam). For more information, or to submit written comments, you may contact:

Telephone numbers: 237-1000/1/2/3/4
Email: Rita M. Castro (DYS Grant Writer) - rcastro@dys.gov.mp
Vivian T. Sablan (DYS Administrator) - vsablan@dys.gov.mp

/s/ Vivian T. Sablan
DYS Administrator

/s/ Robert H. Hunter
DCCA Secretary

UNITED STATES
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 12, the CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities hereby gives notice that it will hold its 4th Quarter General Membership Meeting on August 26, 2019, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the LaoLao Bay & Golf Resort – Caladium Room

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Review & Adoption of Agenda of August 26, 2019
IV. Review & Adoption of Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2019
V. Reports
  a. Chairperson
  b. State Plan Committee Chairperson
  c. Fiscal Committee Chairperson
  d. Executive Director
VI. Old Business
  a. Emergency Preparedness Focus Group Meeting
  b. CIRCLES/Pre-ETS Transition Symposium
VII. New Business
  a. Disability Resource & Training Center
  b. Joint Meeting with CNMI UCEDD Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC)
  c. AVA App Demonstration
VIII. Action Items
  a. Election of Officers
    1. Secretary
    2. Vice Chairperson
    3. Chairperson
IX. Miscellaneous
X. Next Meeting
XI. Adjournment

Note: Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 13(a) 7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session. In accordance to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend this meeting and require special accommodations are requested to call the Council 5 days in advance at 664-7000. The Public is welcome to submit written or 3 minutes oral comments regarding the agenda above.

/s/ Efren Nicholas
Chairperson

This ad was paid for by funds from the DD Basic Grant Part A (Administrative)

Investor who says his signature was forged seeks default judgment

A Chinese investor who claimed that his signature had been forged, causing the fraudulent transfer of $200,000 worth of shares and changed the company's name, is asking the federal court to issue a default judgment against the two companies he is suing.

Junjie Wu and his company, Chimeng Science & Technology Co. Ltd., asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI on Wednesday to enter a default judgment against Black Bison Travel Corp. and Jili Corp. because they did not respond to the lawsuit.

Colin M. Thompson, counsel for Wu and Chimeng Science & Technology Co. Ltd., said that he hired Rainaldo Agulto last July 18 to serve Black Bison Travel and Jili Corp. with the summons and complaint.

Thompson said that, on the same day, Agulto served Hai Ying Jiang Cruz, a representative for the defendants, at their office on Seyur Street in Garapan.

The following day, July 19, Thompson said, his staff served the complaint and summons to Choi Sing Lam, who is the registered agent of the defendants, in front of Pacific Mart in Garapan.

"Until this day defendants failed to plead or otherwise defend themselves against the complaint," said Thompson in his declaration in support of motion for entry of default.

Wu and CST are suing Black Bison Travel Corp., Jili Corp. and 10 other unnamed co-defendants, for fraud, conversion, breach of contract, unjust enrichment, and fraudulent transfer.

Wu and CST asked the court to hold defendants liable to pay them damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

According to the complaint, Ji Li Corp. was established under the CNMI laws in 2011 and that in late 2016, Wu as president and corporate representative of CST, had invested in Ji Li Corp.

On June 11, 2017, Wu was elected president and treasurer of Ji Li Corp. after he invested $200,000 in exchange for 200,000 shares of the company.

Thompson said that on March 21, 2018, a Ji Li board meeting was held in which it was resolved to change the company name to Black Bison Travel Corp.

Thompson said the meeting minutes indicate that it was Wu who called the meeting, yet Wu never called the meeting and his signature was forged.

On April 12, 2018, a document was executed wherein it shows that CST transferred its 200,000 company shares to vice president Hai Ying Jiang for $200,000.

Thompson said Wu never transferred any shares from CST to Jiang and that his signature on this document was forged.

The lawyer said Wu's signature was also forged in a letter dated Sept. 10, 2018, indicating that he resigned from the company. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIX, Issue No. 162

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MEMBER

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EDITORIAL

Ken Cuccinelli betrays path his own ancestors took to America

It's a good thing Virginians rejected Ken Cuccinelli as their governor a few years ago and that Republicans in the U.S. Senate don't want him running the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, as he is clearly a cruel and ignorant man. No wonder President Trump installed him as acting immigration chief to inflict as much damage as possible.

Blabbing on NPR, in defense of the indefensible Trump changes that will deny green cards to legal immigrants who use food stamps or Medicaid or Medicare prescription coverage or housing assistance, Cuccinelli suggested amending Emma Lazarus's ageless poem at Lady Liberty's base to read: "Give me your tired and your poor—who can stand on their own two feet and who will not become a public charge."

Like his boss Trump, Cuccinelli seems to like only rich immigrants, not the millions of poor strivers fleeing oppression and destitution who sailed past the Mother of Exiles in the harbor. You know, the people who came seeking work, who built this country, who fought our wars, and whose modern-day successors do the jobs the rest of us don't want.

People like poor Italian immigrants Dominic Cucciniello and Fortuna Preziosi, Ken Cuccinelli's great grandparents.

(c)2019 New York Daily News

The Trump administration's 'public charge' rule puts more restrictions on legal immigrants

Long before Donald Trump's xenophobia came along, federal immigration law refused green cards to legal immigrants deemed a "public charge," meaning anyone whose primary income is government cash benefits. The rule covered direct money payments, not the broad array of non-cash social programs provided by the state.

So last fall, when Trump's anti-immigration fanatic Stephen Miller starting pushing to radically expand the definition of "public charge" to include all kinds of government aid (and exclude many more newcomers from permanent resident status), we called for "a flood of comments" to show that the American people said no.

And there was a flood. "The Department of Homeland Security received 266,077 comments on the proposed rule, the vast majority of which opposed the rule" says the final DHS rule being published in the Federal Register tomorrow. More than 700 pages of the filing deal with comments and responses.

But the outpouring of perhaps a quarter million rejections didn't matter. The secretary-less DHS had marching orders from Miller. Unless a court intervenes, starting in 60 days, determining factors in whether a green card applicant is a "public charge" or not won't just be the amount of cash benefits they receive but also the value of food stamps, Medicaid, Medicare Rx costs, Section 8 housing vouchers, rental assistance, and other kinds of subsidized housing.

If those programs' value add up to too much of the person's income, "public charge" gets stamped on the paperwork and any possible green card disappears. Just what Miller wants.

(c)2019 New York Daily News

A bad trip

Beach Road is quickly becoming what it used to be—a two-track, potholed lane suitable for carabao-powered ox carts. Sadly, we are letting our finest selling point become ruined by neglect. When you drive to Garapan from San Jose on Beach Road, do you experience a lovely drive down a road with beautiful views of our turquoise lagoon, or are you watching for potholes big enough that you need a road map to get out of them? I suspect the latter. If you've ever driven the road in front of the Hon. Eloy Inos Peace Park headed toward the seaport, you see firsthand what heavy trucks do to a paved road surface. Truckers try to avoid it now that they have destroyed it.

There are a number of reasons for the deterioration of Beach Road and several other island byways. Trucks, specifically overloaded trucks, are the primary reason. They take a bigger toll, faster than does the age of the road. Poorly executed road repairs and patches added after utility work that digs up the roadbed for pipe access add to the woes. Poor original construction sometimes also plays a part. An example is the Marpi area road to Bird Island that is actually collapsing in several places due to a poorly constructed underlayment of the foundation roadbed. This happens when the winning bidder of a construction project spends half of the bid on the road and keeps the rest, sharing it no doubt with the kind soul who gave him the bid.

But I digress. Since we are unlikely to cure the latter, let's look at what we can do to prevent overloaded trucks from damaging our highways at great cost to taxpayers. The bottom line is that overloaded/overweight trucks do damage roads and, in fact, will break up a roadway as seen on Beach Road and elsewhere. Regular passenger cars and light trucks have essentially no impact on properly constructed roads. With that in mind, it makes sense to know which trucks are destroying our roads, and to penalize them severely for that destruction. One or more roadside scales and a set of *enforced* truck weight laws and regulations are the simple answer to this expensive problem.

This will provide a few new jobs and will augment the work already done by the safety inspections done on the road by the commercial trucking officers of DPS. If a station is placed on Pale Arnold (Marpi) road north of the Tanapag Mobil station, it will catch and weigh all commercial vehicles headed to the landfill. If another is placed strategically to weigh the trucks coming to/from the seaport and one that intercepts trucks coming from the major rock quarries, we will have captured the vast majority of perpetrators. Those roaming safety officers can pick up most of the stragglers by accompanying suspected overweight trucks to the nearest official scale for confirmation and issuance of a citation.

This solution is easy, could likely be accomplished via one or more federal Department of Transportation grants and would go a long way toward preserving our road network from the ravages of illegally loaded commercial trucks and heavy construction vehicles. A legislator with a desire to do some good for his constituents and the island of Saipan is all that is needed to get this ball rolling.

SOUR GRAPES

By BRUCE A. BATEMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Bruce A. Bateman resides on Saipan with a wife, a son, and an unknown number of boonie dogs. He has owned and operated a number of unusual businesses and most recently worked as the marketing manager for MVA. Bruce likes to read, travel, tinker with bicycles, hike, swim, and play a bit of golf. He is opinionated and writes when the moon is full and the mood strikes.

Paid the bill

While still not confirmed as of column deadline time, it appears IPI did in fact wire the payment for their annual licensing fee to the Department of Finance on Monday, Aug 12, as required, rumors to the contrary by Propst et al notwithstanding. What, oh, what will Ed have to gripe about now? I, for one, have confidence in Ed and expect he will find some other niggling nabobish "fact" about IPI that irks his peculiar sense of decency. I also have full confidence that he has no solution to replace anywhere near the amount of money that flows into the CNMI GDP and the CNMI government coffers should he finally succeed in running IPI out of town as is his obvious goal. In fact, Ed's total lifetime tax payout combined with those of his family members and the total lifetime tax payments of every voting supporter he has would not amount to a fraction of the taxes and fees IPI contributes in a single year to our economy. I also have confidence that, after all the grandstanding is done, Ed will be happy to *spend* some of that $15 million on some boondoggle project or another, much like his colleagues up on the Hill, given the chance to get his mitts on some of it.

Since I don't vote in Hopeful Ed's precinct and don't live my

See TRIP on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

In humble silence

"Silence" is a word I consider a partner, 24/7. I'm usually engulfed in it at dawn in prayers. With my first cup of coffee and nicotine fit, it's time to begin perusing materials on the internet.

In calm, I could feel the pulse of our community in these pearly isles. It's woefully quiet, though, beyond kids walking to school and folks heading to work. It's great the island felicitation wherever we meet. *Buenas*! It's another day in paradise!

Exit

One recent phenomenon I find especially troubling is the "silent" exit of Nippon investments from the islands in recent past. There's also the Marpi land vacated by Nippon investors recently. It probably is the last large Nippon business venue.

The elected elite seemed aloof or indifferent about it or its implications. It pertains to the future wellbeing of our people. Is this why the apparent indifference from Da Hills of Saipan or is it a case of being clueless what just happened?

Had we employed depth of perception and humility we could have turned their presence into a lasting partnership. It should lead to building lasting investments and a prosperous economy. But we were arrogant and aloof and left everything to deteriorate to our demise. Where then do we go with major economic contraction beyond intoning the sorrowful "que sera?"

Quality

I've heard the quiet voice of nearly 15-thousand employees earning poverty income wages and salaries. You instantly defer to the quality of life at home as they struggle to make it through another day. Have you heard this or "not yet, already?"

It's a daily hardship often met with quiet cringes of frustration by parents that can't buy their kids' needs in order to attend class or live in common decency.

Economic contraction translates into far less for far more, financially. Have Da Boysis done their homework to figure out the beast?

History

With Nippon investments gone past Managaha Island what else is there beyond looking intelligently disoriented and ignorant? The elected elite can't treat the issue as a fly by cotton ball. It's about the quality of life at home!

What's our future under current economic scenario? Or is there a plan to reboot investments? If so, what are those plans and are they realistic?

Understood that we never had ancestral entrepreneurship in private industry. But times have changed and it is fitting that we move into small business ventures for our livelihood.

But with Nippon investments being history is there hope of rebuilding upon deepening economic stagnancy? We need permanency on this score thus the fitting view that we invest in our own people, specifically, small business ventures.

Income

Per federal law, poverty income is between $15-K to $42-K per year. Most employees here are in the $15-$18-K income category especially on Tinian and Rota. But all must endure the high cost of living in this archipelago.

With such lowly income, puzzling how families have endured imposition of inadequacies while struggling to meet basic needs. Perhaps our savings grace has been and still is our powerful culture of "sharing" among ourselves.

The island culture of filial generosity eases hardship through thick and thin. Yes, sharing half a chicken could feed a family of 16. I know for I've been a beneficiary of it many years ago.

Take income beyond nutritional needs into other basic obligations and it instantly fizzles. We're fortunate for Medicare and Medicaid lest most would simply stay home (though seriously ill) rather than chance embarrassment unable to pay for the high cost of healthcare.

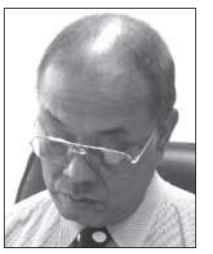
The answer is in a healthy economy where new money provides for business operations and employment.

Taxes

A plan to impose (by simple transfer of additional taxes) on "foreign-owned" small business here is both racist and humiliatingly immature. Each works the clock to generate revenue. Why saddle them with more than their share of taxes by sparing locals from the same obligation?

Moreover, why the brave assertion that it's better "them" than "our own people". Since when is taxation limited to ethnicity? It's a racist and bigoted plan that is a perfect invitation for an embarrassing litigation. Nah! All must pay taxes regardless. Ethnic targeting on taxes is simply unconstitutional!

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune



John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Trump rule makes immigration classy

The little boy was warned: SSHHH! He, his sisters and his parents were hiding from the guys with badges. They were stowing away in a train car, sneaking across the U.S. border—hoping to begin living their new American dream.

Luckily, they made it. They got across the U.S. border undetected. They had little money and just the few possessions they could carry on the run. But they got into the USA before President Donald Trump and his acting director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Ken Cuccinelli, could implement their new immigration rule.

The Trump-Cuccinelli rule, announced Monday, was drafted to assure that others seeking to pursue the dreams of the little boy's poor family won't be able to remain in the USA legally.

That's a reality Cuccinelli made clear this week—and in the process, he also made it clear he sees himself as Trump's acting-poet laureate. On Tuesday, a National Public Radio interviewer asked Cuccinelli if the "American ethos" still includes poet Emma Lazarus's iconic words that are etched into the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor,/Your huddled masses, yearning to breathe free,/The wretched refuse of your teaming shore./Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me..."

"They certainly are," Cuccinelli said. But then he spontaneously rewrote the famous French poet's words to give them an entirely new meaning that would seem to validate his claim: "Give me your tired and your poor who can stand on their own two feet. And who will not become a public charge."

Under the new Trump rule, no immigrants will be admitted to work in the United States if they seem likely to "become a public charge"—which, frankly, is what happened in real life to the little boy and his family. We know this because the train on which that boy and his family stowed away entered the United States not by crossing the Mexican border, but by crossing the Canadian border—and it happened more than eight decades ago. The boy's parents originally came to Canada from Byelorussia. And they definitely were poor; they lived in poverty in the Bronx, New York. For years, the boy's life was a series of tragedies: he was still a child when his father fell from a scaffold and died; four of his five sisters also died. He contracted a serious illness that crippled his legs—and was hospitalized as a charity patient. It took him years to recover.

The boy was Abe Rosenthal, who went on to have a legendary career at The New York Times. He earned a Pulitzer Prize as a correspondent, became the executive editor and led the newspaper through tumultuous times. In 2002, President George W. Bush awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor. In his last column for the Times, Rosenthal ended by writing: "I thank God for ...making me an American citizen."

You won't find this story of how Abe really got to the USA in his official Times bio or in his 2006 Times obituary. But Abe told it to me one night as we sat in a bar along some presidential campaign trail long ago.

On Tuesday, Abe's old newspaper reported Trump's new immigration rule at the top right corner of page one: "POLICY LETS U.S. REJECT THE POOR FOR GREEN CARDS."

The Times reported Trump's rule change was "targeting legal immigrants who want to remain in the United States but whose lack of financial resources are judged likely to make them a burden on taxpayers. ...Poor immigrants will be denied permanent legal status, also known as a green card, if they are deemed likely to use government benefit programs such as food stamps and subsidized housing."

Even if Abe's family had entered the U.S. legally for a vacation and then sought to remain legally, Trump's new bottom line is clear: The family of Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient Abe Rosenthal wouldn't be permitted to share in Trump's and Cuccinelli's new redefinition of what the world knows as the idea that is America. And that would be America's loss.

EPILOGUE: Our president's grandfather came here from Germany and made his money in Alaska running a restaurant-bar-and-brothel. Cuccinelli's heritage is Italian and Irish—and on Wednesday, he used his European heritage to make sure you won't assume his extemporaneous rewrite of the Statue of Liberty's poetry was a goof or gaffe. When a reporter gave him a chance to double back, Cuccinelli replied with a classy double-down:

"That poem was referring back to people coming from Europe, where they had class-based societies, where people were considered wretched if they weren't in the right class."

By MARTIN SCHRAM
Tribune News Service

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.

TRIP

From Page 14

life vicariously on Facebook, I don't follow his every move but I would like to know how Ed comes down on the U.S. DoD's position of wanting to blow up half of Tinian and all of Pagan if they can just talk us dumb colonists into agreeing to it. I would like to hear him staunchly oppose that usurpation of local rights and human dignity just so I could claim that I don't disagree with *everything* he stands for. As the old cliché goes: Politics sometimes makes for strange bedfellows. It would be nice to know there is something in Ed's platform that I could get behind. Do you like puppies, Ed? Would you agree that Bernie's brand of socialism will hasten the demise of the U.S.A. should he get a chance to wield the executive scepter? Would you agree that the "…shall not infringe…" wording in the U.S. Constitution's 2nd Amendment means that U.S. citizens have an unabridged constitutional right to keep and bear arms? Well, one out of three isn't bad.

I say all this so you don't think I bear Ed any personal ill will. I just don't think his stance on IPI specifically, or on governmentally legalized gaming generally, is rational or in the best self-interest of his fellow citizens here in the CNMI… but I do like puppies.

Thanks for reading Sour Grapes!

The problem with socialism is that you eventually run out of other peoples' money.
—Margaret Thatcher

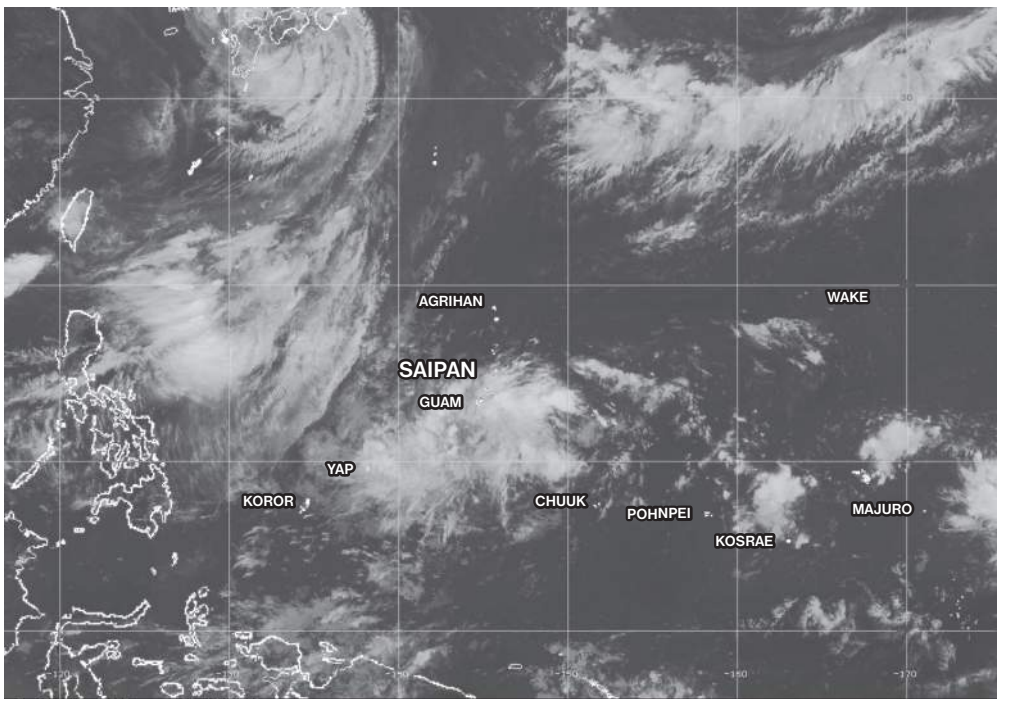
He who walks in the middle of the roads gets hit from both sides.
—George P. Shultz

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
89° 78°	89° 79°	89° 79°	88° 78°	88° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:35 AM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Mostly cloudy skies with mainly gentle winds, scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms prevail across the Marianas this morning. Buoys show seas between 5 and 7 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	57° / 50°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	90° / 64°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 78°
London	Showers	66° / 63°
Los Angeles	Sunny	82° / 63°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	63° / 54°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87° / 81°
New York	Mostly Cloudy	81° / 70°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	91° / 81°
Paris	Cloudy	79° / 63°
Busan	Sunny	88° / 77°
Rome	Sunny	90° / 66°
Salem	Sunny	94° / 72°
San Francisco	Sunny	69° / 56°
Seoul	Thunderstorms	84° / 70°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	95° / 81°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	88° / 74°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:27 AM	LOW TIDE	1.15
7:26 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.90
2:32 PM	LOW TIDE	0.09
9:13 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.88

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:02 AM	6:40 PM
Saturday	6:02 AM	6:39 PM
Sunday	6:02 AM	6:39 PM
Monday	6:02 AM	6:38 PM
Tuesday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	6:21 AM	7:19 PM
Saturday	-	7:10 AM	7:57 PM
Sunday	-	7:57 AM	8:34 PM
Monday	-	8:44 AM	9:10 PM
Tuesday	-	9:30 AM	9:46 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 15, 2019

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	1, 2, 3, 5, 7
7C3403	5:00am	8:30am	4
7C3403	5:00am	8:50am	6
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	4, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	8:10pm	1, 2, 3, 5, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	3, 5

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Back-to-school shopping off to slow start

By BEA CABRERA
beacarerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

The summer break is over for some in the Marianas as a number of private schools have resumed classes a week ago. Public School System schools will open their doors starting first week of September. Yet the typical back-to-school rush that comes with the start of classes appears to be off to a slow start, with many stores saying the shopping season for new school have not picked up yet.

Alice Legaspi, manager of National Office Supply on Beach Road, said that business right now is a tad slow compared to previous years. She cited two possible factors: the governmentwide austerity measures that are currently being implemented and parents may be waiting for the school supply list that will be provided by teachers.

Some of the items that are available at Modern Office Supply with 30% discount. BEA CABRERA

"But we remain hopeful that it will pick up," she added.

According to the U.S. National Retail Foundation, American families with children in Kindergarten through 12th grade expect to spend an average of nearly $700 on back-to-school shopping this year, spending an average of $117.49 on school supplies such as notebooks and bags.

Right now, National Office Supply is offering 30% discount on school and office supplies.

"We started the promo in July 24 and will last until Sept. 15 and we ask our customers to look for the white tags to avail of the discount. … We started early because [of] the schools that opened early and we also wanted to catch the people who haven't had the chance to shop because they were off island during the summer," she said.

She said their discounts are not only intended to promote sales but also to help the families that are experiencing the current austerity measures being implemented by the government.

"A lot of families are having a hard time and that is why we feel that we need to do something," Legaspi said. "Aside from the big discounts, we accommodated parents who came to the store before the sale. Some of them actually came from Tinian and Rota. …We accommodated their request because these are special cases as they travel to Saipan just to shop and we appreciate that. …We adjust because our customers are important to us."

Modern Office Supply in San Jose is also giving a 30% discount on school supplies with white tags, 10% on items with yellow tags and, according the accountant Wilma De Leon, they give 10% discount on items that are already on a sale, such as school bags, calculators, flash drives, to name a few. Promo is until Sept. 15, 2019.

"We do this back-to-school sale for the community, especially for the parents. …We are expecting more customers to come…in the coming days," she said.

Mel Rebueno of Dandan was at Modern Office Supply yesterday with her daughters, who go to Southern High School. She said that, although classes will start on Sept. 3, they are checking off items from their shopping list this early. "It's easier and less headache for me because I don't have to rush at the last minute. We are just getting the basic stuff that they need because, when school starts, we will have another trip to the bookstore because each teacher has a list. I believe proper planning is key when it comes to buying school supplies and maximizing the ongoing sale," she added.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Vacation Bible School set

Life in the Son Christian Fellowship is hosting a Vacation Bible School on Aug. 19-23, Monday to Friday, from 5:30pm-8:30pm at Life in the Son Christian Fellowship Church, located at the Gualo Rai traffic light corner, across J's cafe, Middle Road.

The theme this year is "The Greatest Journey." It is open to children ages 5 to 12 years old.

There will be games, crafts, gift boxes, the Greatest Journey material and much more.

Registration is free (limited seating)

For more information, text or call 287-2236 or call only at 235-5433.

Parents/guardians can register their kids online:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lits-saipan-vbs-2019-the-greatest-journey-registration-67964133553.

Scheduled water service outage today

There will be a scheduled water service interruption in Koblerville, San Antonio, Chalan Piao, Chalan Kanoa, Susupe, San Jose and Chalan Laulau Beach Road to Quartermaster Road today, Aug. 16, from 8:30am to 12:30pm.

This would allow water operations personnel of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to repair a damaged 18-inch water mainline break along As Perdido Road. Customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of water service soon after.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center at 664-4282. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to a very special lady, Dolores Tomokane Borja (Lola)! We are sending you lots of love on your special day, from thousands of miles away. Hugs and kisses from Washington State, Arizona, and Kentucky! We love and miss you so much. Greetings come from your children, grandkids and great-grandkids. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-19-028

REPLACEMENT OF SADOG TASI WWTP CLARIFIER

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Replacement of Sadog Tasi Clarifier Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of installation of a new circular clarifier mechanism and replacement or repair of the effluent launder box; removal of the old circular clarifier mechanism and sections of the effluent launder box; replacement of the RFP weirs and scum baffle, installation of a new outer scum baffle; installation of new area lighting, wires, and conduit, and disconnect boxes; installation of a new process water spray system for foam control. The work shall include the dewatering and cleaning of aeration basin #3 and the clarifier; routing process flow and maintaining conditions during the construction period; and returning process flow from the aeration basin to the clarifier. The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi Waste Water Treatment Plant. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **$100.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on August 22, 2019 at 10:00 AM (ChST) at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building. One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-19-028, Replacement of the Sadog Tasi Clarifier"* to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) September 6, 2019**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time.

Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on August 23, 2019** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email address westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC P&S, Purchasing Technician, Senior – christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting, Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)
Homeless Prevention Coalition

CNMI HOMELESS PREVENTION COALITION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition is soliciting project proposals from qualified and established organizations and agencies to apply for the CNMI Continuum of Care (CoC) grant through Funding Opportunity Number FR-6200-N-25, Primary CFDA #14.267 under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program (24CFR part 578) is designed to promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; to provide funding for efforts by non-profit providers, states and local government to quickly rehouse homeless individuals, families, persons fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking, and youth while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness; to promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and to optimize self-sufficiency among those experiencing homelessness (FR-6200-N-25 Program Description).

The proposal packets are available at the NMHC Central Office in Saipan during regular business hours from Monday thru Friday, except CNMI Holidays beginning Tuesday, July 16, 2019.

A mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held on July 23, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the NMHC Central Office Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to the NMHC Office attention CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition or emailed directly to Jacob Muna at jjmuna@nmhc.gov.mp.

The proposal would be evaluated based on the following criteria (s):

RFP and Required Documentations	10%
Organizational Capacity	20%
Financial Management	20%
Project Plan	30%
Performance Measurement	20%

Proposers must seal and mark their proposals "2019 Continuum of Care Project". Proposers must submit one (1) original and two (2) copies of sealed proposal and submitted to NMHC Central Office no later than 10:00 a.m. on August 16, 2018.

The CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of the CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals become the property of the CNMI Homeless Prevention Coalition.

For more information, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, NMHC Planner at (670)234-7689 or (670)483-9447 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/
Vivian Sablan
Chairwoman

Business

Shinsen Sushi: A favorite of local diners

MARK RABAGO

Shinsen Sushi is located across GIG in Garapan and has been in business since 2004.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

It is located in the tourist district of Garapan, but Shinsen Sushi has always counted on locals at its No. 1 customers in the 15 years it has existed.

Since 2004, Shinsen Sushi has always catered to local customers, said restaurant manager Jung Gon "Kris" Kim, since, unlike the tourist market that relies a lot on external factors, the local market is more stable.

"We always treat our local customers like family and that's why they keep coming back all these years," he said.

To his estimation, up to 90% of Shinsen Sushi's customers are local residents, with 10% made up of tourists.

Another selling point of the Japanese restaurant is its competitive prices. Kim said they haven't raised prices in the last 10 years.

Shinsen Sushi's garlic tuna.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

It helps that the owners of Shinsen Sushi own the building it is located in and don't have to pay for rent.

Among the bestsellers at the Japanese sushi place are its spicy tuna tempura, sushi rolls, and it's very affordable bento meals that are a steal for $10 for two. In all, Shinsen Sushi's menu has 111 items.

Another secret to Shinsen Sushi's longevity and popularity among local customers is they always serve fresh fish. Kim himself buys the fish at the many fish stores along Beach Road every morning.

He said it's imperative for Japanese restaurants to stock on fresh seafood every day, as that particular item is a staple to their business.

Like other businesses in the CNMI, Shinsen Sushi also suffered in the immediate aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. The restaurant was shuttered for three months and he and his staff had to rely on disaster food stamps to survive.

Fortunately, the Garapan landmark's long hiatus didn't have an effect on its loyal customers; they immediately formed a beeline to Shinsen Sushi when it finally reopened in January.

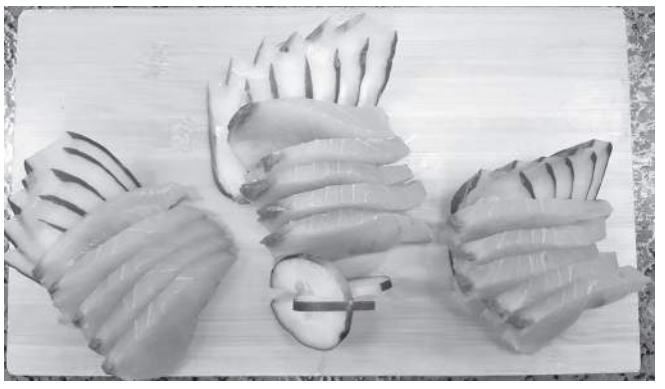
To reward their loyalty, Kim said Shinsen Sushi currently has a summer promotion where it sells gift certificates at 20% off—$20 for a $25 gift certificate, $28 for a $35 gift certificate, and $36 for a $45 one.

"It's our way of saying 'thank you' to our beloved customers," he said.

Shinsen Sushi also has a frequent customer card where 10 stamps will get customers a free $15 dish. One stamp is equivalent to $15 worth of food and drinks and are applicable for dine-in and takeout.

Shinsen Sushi is located across GIG in Garapan and is open Monday-Saturday, from 11am to 2pm and 5:30m to 10pm. On Sunday, it is only open from 5:30pm to 10pm. The Japanese sushi restaurant can comfortably seat 60 diners and has parking slots for 11 vehicles.

For more information on Shinsen Sushi, call 233-1600 or click on their Facebook page.



Shinsen Sushi's fresh mahi mahi.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Businesses have cautious expansion plans as economy weakens

NEW YORK (AP)—Ron Pierce has one eye on expanding his information technology business and the other on something he can't control: the economy.

"I'm not afraid to expand my company, but I realize that a recession may be coming and that any expansion could have me reducing my staff," says Pierce, owner of Trinity Solutions in Greensboro, North Carolina. But he's going ahead with his plans.

Pierce wants to grow by buying other IT firms; he believes businesses will need his services, which includes helping them upgrade to new technologies and systems, whatever the economy is doing. A recession could make his expansion plans easier because prices for companies are likely to fall in a downturn.

Many small businesses are expanding and plan to continue doing so even if the economy continues to slow. Some may not need to worry about a recession because their products and services are in great demand. IT companies like Pierce's are one example; another is businesses selling security and surveillance systems for homes and commercial buildings. But other owners are strategizing to make sure their companies are in a strong position to both expand and weather a downturn. They're more selective about the clients they work for, or are changing the focus of their business to one less vulnerable to the economy.

There are already signs that some owners are cautious. The number of small business jobs counted by payroll provider ADP has slowed dramatically the past few months. ADP customers with under 50 employees added 11,000 jobs in July after cutting a total of 45,000 in May and June; that compared to a gain of 66,000 in April.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
MULTI YEAR FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDIT SERVICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CPA-RFP-010-19

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed cost proposal for auditing services for a period of three (3) fiscal years. The location and scope of work package is available beginning July 19, 2019 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Interested proposers must submit one original and three copies of the sealed proposal. Only proposals from U.S. nationally recognized firms will be accepted.

The sealed proposals must be submitted before 4:30 p.m. LOCAL TIME, August 16, 2019, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport. CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director **Date:**_____

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
FOR FINANCIAL AND COMPLIANCE AUDITS FOR FY 2019 AND 2020
MPLT RFP 19.01

The Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) is soliciting Request for Proposal (RFP) for Financial and Compliance Audit for MPLT for fiscal years 2019 and 2020. Copy of the RFP is available @ **www.mplt.gov.mp** or may be pick-up at MPLT, 1222 Capital Hill Road, Saipan, MP 96950.
Office Hours: 8:00am – 5:00pm, Monday – Friday

Contact Barbara Reyes at (670) 322-4401/4402 or email: mplt@mplt.gov.mp for more information.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION:
4:00 P.M., Friday, September 13, 2019

PLACE:
Marianas Public Land Trust
P.O. Box 501089
1222 Capital Hill Road
Saipan, MP 96950

The MPLT reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in a proposal if doing so is in the Trust best interest. All proposals shall become the property of MPLT.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
P.O Box 500861
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 664-3200/1
Fax: (670) 664-3237
mva@mymarianas.com
www.mymarianas.com
The Marianas

REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 20, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. in the MVA Conference Room, Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) **Preliminary Matters**
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Adoption of Agenda
   4. Adoption of Minutes
      a. Special Board Meeting – June 17, 2019
      b. Special Board Meeting – June 25, 2019
      c. Special Board Meeting – June 28, 2019
      d. Special Board Meeting – July 31, 2019
2) **Public Comments**
3) **Committee Reports**
   1. Finance Committee –
      a. Fund Status Report – July 2019
4) **New Business**
   1. Off-Shore Marketing Budget for FY2020
5) **Old Business**
   1. MOU with the Saipan Mayor's Office for Beautification Projects – No Cost Extension
   2. MOU with the Tinian Mayor's Office for the Observation Deck Project – No Cost Extension
   3. MOU with the Rota Mayor's Office for the Mt. Sabana 360 Lookout Project – No Cost Extension
   4. MOU with CCVI for the 500 Sails Project – No Cost Extension
6) **Executive Session**
7) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
8) **Adjournment**

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

Nation

Gunman wounds at least 6 Philadelphia police; 2 others freed

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—At least one gunman opened fire on police Wednesday as they were serving a drug warrant in Philadelphia, wounding six officers and triggering a standoff that extended into the night, authorities said.

Two other officers were trapped inside the house for about five hours after the shooting broke out but were freed by a SWAT team well after darkness fell on the residential neighborhood.

None of the officers sustained life-threatening injuries and they've been released from the hospital, Philadelphia police Sgt. Eric Gripp said.

"It's nothing short of a miracle that we don't have multiple officers killed today," said Philadelphia Police Commissioner Richard Ross as officers continued their standoff with the gunman.

The shooting began around 4:30 p.m. as officers went to a home in a north Philadelphia neighborhood of brick and stone rowhomes to serve a narcotics warrant in an operation "that went awry almost immediately," Ross said.

"I was just coming off the train and I was walking upstairs and there were people running back downstairs who said that there was someone up there shooting cops," said Abdul Rahman Muhammad, 21, an off-duty medic. "There was just a lot of screaming and chaos."

Many officers "had to escape through windows and doors to get (away) from a barrage of bullets," Ross said.

Shots were still being fired three hours later, police said, and officers returned fire.

Around 9:30 p.m., police said, a SWAT team freed the two officers who had been trapped inside, along with three people that officers took into custody before the shooting as part of the drug warrant. But the gunman remained barricaded.

Police were imploring him to surrender, at one point patching in his lawyer on the phone with him to try to persuade him to give up, Ross said.

"We're doing everything within our power to get him to come out," Ross said, adding: "He has the highest assurance he's not going to be harmed when he comes out."

Temple University locked down part of its campus, and several children and staff were trapped for some time in a nearby day care.

Leaders say love will triumph over hate after El Paso attack

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—Leaders from both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border told thousands of people gathered in a baseball stadium in El Paso Wednesday that love will triumph over hatred in the wake of a mass shooting by a man who authorities believe targeted Mexicans at a Walmart store in the Texas border city.

People lined up hours before the memorial and packed the stadium in downtown El Paso that could hold about 8,000.

Nine circles and 22 stars formed by luminarias—traditional lanterns made from paper bags, sand, and LED lights—adorned the field in honor of the nine people killed in the Dayton, Ohio, mass shooting and the 22 El Paso shooting victims.

The ceremony at Southwest University Park officially commemorated those killed in the largely Latino city by a gunman who police say confessed to driving from the Dallas area. Most of the dead had Hispanic last names, and eight were Mexican nationals. Nearly two dozen others were injured.

"Hate will never overcome our love. Hate will never overcome who we are," El Paso Mayor Dee Margo said.

"We are a bilingual family," he said. "We are successful because of our people. There is nowhere in North America like El Paso-Juárez."

El Paso is just across the border from the Mexican city of Juarez and some of those shot at Walmart were Mexicans who had crossed to El Paso to shop.

Republican Texas Gov. Greg Abbott received a huge applause from the crowd in the predominantly Democratic city when he said that he would "dismantle the purveyors of hate."

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
TEL. NO. 664-8300 • FAX NO. 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

As of August 16, 2019

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Tinian Hairui Real Estate Co., LLC dba Xingsha Hotel	03/15/2019 TMS-2019-X-020	Xingsha Hotel	San Jose, Tinian	Major Siting-New	Certified Complete July 03, 2019
2. Hafadai Ocean Edventures, LLC	07/15/2019 SLR-2018-X-132-R2	Paddle Boards, Sailing Snorkeling, & Outrigger Canoe	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 08/06/2019
3. Sydney Takahashi dba Fishguyz SCUBA	07/15/2019 SLR-2018-X-141-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	Tanapag Harbor & Grotto	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 08/06/2019
4. Yumiko Brundidge dba Naka's Diving Services	07/15/2019 STLR-2018-X-143-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Dive Sites, Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 08/06/2019
5. Amodiving Center, Inc.	07/18/2019 SLR-2018-X-082-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation & Snorkeling	All Dive Sites, Saipan, & Mañagaha Island	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 08/08/2019
6. Marianas Sports Club, Inc. dba MSC	07/25/2019 STLR-2018-X-148-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Dive Sites, Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 08/06/2019
7. CMLC Artha Co., Ltd.	08/05/2019 STLR-2018-X-109-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	All Dive Sites, Saipan & Tinian	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 08/06/2019
8. GPPC, Inc.	08/06/2019 TMS-2019-X-048	Rock Quarry	Tachungnya, Tinian	Major Siting-New	Under Review*
9. Department of Public Works	08/09/2019 SW-2019-X-049	Japanese Road Improvement	As Terlaje, Saipan	Wetlands	Under Review*
10. Pelley Boat Charters, Inc.	08/12/2019 SPI-2019-X-050	Drydock	North Sea Plane Ramp, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Under Review*
11. AIC Marianas	08/13/2019 SW-2019-X-051	Island Wide Waterline Repairs	As Teo, Talofofo, & Capitol Hill, Saipan	Wetlands	Under Review*
12. Smart Star Inc. dba Blue Bay Diving Club	08/13/2019 SLR-2018-X-129-R2	SCUBA Diving Tour Operation/Instruction	Laolao Beach & Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. EPHREM S. TAIMANAO and LUCIA M. TAIMANAO, dba JOE AND SONS ENTERPRISES, Defendants.	Civil Action No. 18-0018 (R) AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION AND JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property entered in the above titled action on February 15, 2019, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff Bank of Guam from Defendants Ephrem S. Taimanao and Lucia M. Taimanao, dba Joe and Sons Enterprises, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on **October 3, 2019**, at **11:00 A.M**, at the **Rota Courthouse Lobby**, Rota, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 345 R 200, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 05, the original of which was recorded 10 MAY 1984 as Document No. 84-751 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan, shall be sold to satisfy the foreclosure judgment entered by the Court.

Terms and Conditions of Sale:

1. Public Sale. The auction shall be open to the general public.
2. With Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the action sale:
   a. to withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b. to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. to reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: (670) 234-7859; Fax: (670) 234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com. Any person who submits his/her bid shall provide a copy of his/her valid Identification Card, or other legally acceptable form of identification. A written bid shall include the bidder's signature with his/her telephone number, mailing address, and any other contact information.
5. Deposit and Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which will revert to Plaintiff Bank of Guam.
6. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer. A copy of the appraisal report and other documents pertaining to the mortgaged property to be sold at public auction is available upon request. If necessary, a copy of the appraisal report will be provided to the Rota Bank of Guam Manager for Rota, for on-island bidders.

DATED this 6th day of August, 2019.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

ROBERT T. TORRES, ESQ.
Attorney at Law
P.O. Box 503758 CK
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: 234-7859
Fax: 234-5750

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. EPHREM S. TAIMANAO and LUCIA M. TAIMANAO, dba JOE AND SONS ENTERPRISES, Defendants.	Civil Action No. 18-0019 (R) AMENDED NOTICE OF AUCTION AND JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property entered in the above titled action on February 15, 2019, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff Bank of Guam from Defendants Ephrem S. Taimanao and Lucia M. Taimanao, dba Joe and Sons Enterprises, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on **October 3, 2019**, at **11:00 AM**, at the **Rota Courthouse Lobby**, Rota, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot 010 R 20, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 010 R 00 dated March 06, 1974, as Document No. 3438 at Land Registry, Saipan, which was recorded on June 17, 1997 as Document No. 97-1467 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Terms and Conditions of Sale:

1. Public Sale. The auction shall be open to the general public.
2. With Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the action sale:
   a. to withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
   b. to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. to reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: (670) 234-7859; Fax: (670) 234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com. Any person who submits his/her bid shall provide a copy of his/her valid Identification Card, or other legally acceptable form of identification. A written bid shall include the bidder's signature with his/her telephone number, mailing address, and any other contact information.
5. Deposit and Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which will revert to Plaintiff Bank of Guam.
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DATED this 6th day of August, 2019.

/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

Asia

Japan's new emperor remorseful in 1st war anniversary speech

TOKYO (AP)—Emperor Naruhito expressed "deep remorse" over Japan's role in World War II in his first appearance at the annual ceremony marking the end of the hostilities.

The 59-year-old Naruhito is Japan's first emperor born after the war, and his remarks Thursday closely followed the stance of his father, Akihito, who abdicated in May.

"Reflecting on our past and bearing in mind the feelings of deep remorse, I earnestly hope that the ravages of war will never be repeated," Naruhito said in a short speech at an event in Tokyo marking the 74th anniversary of Japan's surrender.

Looking nervous and his voice slightly trembling, Naruhito pledged to reflect on the wartime past and expressed hope that the tragedy should never be repeated. Empress Masako, in a gray suit and a hat, quietly stood by his side, her head slightly lowered.

Naruhito

Naruhito has promised to follow in the footsteps of his father, who committed his career to making amends for a war fought in the name of Hirohito — the current emperor's grandfather. Though Akihito has avoided a direct apology, he has subtly stepped up his expressions of regret over the past years in carefully scripted statements on the war.

In sharp contrast, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe did not apologize or acknowledge Japanese wartime atrocities in Asia and elsewhere. Instead, he made a long list of damage inflicted on Japan and its people, including the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, massive fire bombings of Tokyo and the fierce battle of Okinawa.

The emperor's words have taken on greater importance and caught attention as Abe has increasingly sought to whitewash Japan's troubled and embarrassing past since taking office in December 2012. Abe has since stopped acknowledging Japan's wartime hostilities in his Aug. 15 speech, ending a tradition that past prime ministers had handed down since the 1995 apology by a Socialist leader Tomiichi Murayama.

Abe made no reference to Japan's ongoing dispute with South Korea over trade and compensation demands over brutal treatment of Korean laborers during Japanese colonization of the Korean Peninsula in 1910-1945. He pledged that Japan will reflect on lessons from history and will not repeat the devastation of war, while joining international efforts to tackle world problems.

Abe, however, stayed away from a Tokyo shrine that honors convicted war criminals among the war dead, and instead sent a religious offering, a gesture to avoid angering China and South Korea, which consider the Yasukuni shrine as a symbol of Japan's militarism.

S. Korea's Moon calls for talks to end trade row with Japan

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean President Moon Jae-in offered an olive branch to Japan to end an ongoing trade dispute Thursday, saying Seoul will "gladly join hands" if Tokyo wants to talk.

Moon in a nationally televised speech also downplayed the threat posed by North Korea's recent short-range ballistic launches and expressed hope that Washington and Pyongyang would soon resume nuclear negotiations.

"If a country weaponizes a sector where it has a comparative advantage, the order of peaceful free trade inevitably suffers. A country that accomplished growth first must not kick the ladder away while others are following in its footsteps," Moon said in reference to Japan.

"If Japan better late than never chooses the path of dialogue and cooperation, we will gladly join hands," he said.

Moon's speech at a ceremony marking the 74th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japanese rule at the end of World War II came amid heightened public anger and diplomatic fallout over Tokyo's recent moves to impose trade curbs on South Korea.

Seoul has accused Tokyo of weaponizing trade to target its export-dependent economy and retaliate against South Korean court rulings calling for Japanese companies to offer reparations to South Koreans forced into labor during World War II. Tokyo's measures struck a nerve in South Korea, where many still harbor resentment over Japan's ruthless colonial rule from 1910 to 1945.

After threatening stern countermeasures and declaring that South Korea would "never lose" to Japan again, Moon has taken a more conciliatory tone over the past week as there was relief in Seoul that the impact of Japan's trade measures might not be as bad as initially thought.

There have also been concerns that the government's nationalistic calls for unity were allowing public anger toward Japan to reach dangerous levels.

Nevertheless, tens of thousands of people were expected join anti-Japan protests planned for Thursday, including an evening candlelit vigil near Seoul's presidential palace.

Flights resume at Hong Kong airport as protesters apologize

HONG KONG (AP)—Flights resumed Wednesday at Hong Kong's airport after two days of disruptions that descended into clashes with police, highlighting the hardening positions of pro-democracy protesters and the authorities in the semi-autonomous Chinese city. After nightfall, a new protest outside a police station in the city was dispersed as officers fired tear gas.

There was soul-searching in the protest movement, including the three dozen demonstrators who remained camped at the airport arrivals area. They asked travelers and the general public for forgiveness after their blockade turned into chaotic and frenzied violence.

While the movement's supporters still have street protests planned, it's unclear what their next move is or whether they will be able to find new rallying sites to keep the pressure on authorities.

Protesters spread pamphlets and posters on the floor in one section of the terminal but were not impeding travelers. Online, they also circulated letters and promotional materials apologizing for the inconveniences during the past five days of the airport occupation.

"It is not our intention to cause delays to your travels and we do not want to cause inconvenience to you," said an emailed statement from a group of protesters. "We ask for your understanding and forgiveness as young people in Hong Kong continue to fight for freedom and democracy."

The following message will be displayed to users with unsupported browsers: Your browser does not support the HTML tag. Try viewing this in a modern browser like Chrome, Safari, Firefox or Internet Explorer 9 or later.

The airport's management said it had obtained "an interim injunction to restrain persons from unlawfully and willfully obstructing or interfering" with airport operations. It said an area of the airport had been set aside for demonstrations, but no protests would be allowed outside the designated area.

Additional identification checks were in place, but check-in counters were open and flights appeared to be operating normally. The demonstration resulted in more than 100 flight cancellations on Tuesday and about 200 on Monday.

Hong Kong police said they arrested five people during clashes at the airport Tuesday night.

Assistant Commissioner of Police Operations Mak Chin-ho said the men, aged between 17 and 28, were arrested for illegal assembly. Two were also charged with assaulting a police officer and possessing weapons as riot police sought to clear the terminal.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
Rezone Application # 2019-2458

Department of Public Works (DPW)

From "Agricultural" to "Rural" Zoning district for construction of a new Kagman Residential Solid Waste Transfer Station
Lot# 004 G 43
(Kagman, fronting Gabgab Drive)

August 22, 2019
Thursday, 5:00 p.m.
Venue: Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe
For more information call: 234-9661

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
Rezone Application # 2019-2112

Francisco Paul B. Roberto

From "Village Commercial" to "Mixed Commercial" Zoning district to operate an Auto Body Shop/Vehicle Repair, General
Lots# TR21863-13 & TR21863NEW-R1
(Dandan/Airport Road)

August 22, 2019
Thursday, 5:00 p.m.
Venue: Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe
For more information call: 234-9661

Commonwealth Zoning Special Board Meeting Agenda
Friday, August 23, 2019
10:00 AM, Zoning Board Conference Room
Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • www.zoning.gov.mp

A. **Preliminary Matters**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Public Comments

B. **New Business:**

C. **Old Business:**
1. Administrator's presentation of proposed text and map amendments to the Saipan Zoning Law of 2013
2. Administrator's presentation of proposed ATV, UTV, & Motorcycle regulation

D. **Miscellaneous**
a. Other Matters
b. Announcements
c. Next Meeting

E. **Adjourn**

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Mariano Taitano, Zoning Board Chairman

World

Pure as snow? Scientists say air carrying plastics to Arctic

BERLIN (AP)—Scientists say they've found an abundance of tiny plastic particles in Arctic snow, indicating that so-called microplastics are being sucked into the atmosphere and carried long distances to some of the remotest corners of the planet.

The researchers examined snow collected from sites in the Arctic, northern Germany, the Bavarian and Swiss Alps and the North Sea island of Heligoland with a process specially designed to analyze their samples in a lab.

"While we did expect to find microplastics, the enormous concentrations surprised us," Melanie Bergmann, a researcher at the Alfred-Wegener-Institute in Bremerhaven, Germany, said.

Their findings were published Wednesday in the journal Science Advances.

Previous studies have found microplastics—which are created when man-made materials break apart and defined as pieces smaller than 5 millimeters—in the air of Paris, Tehran and Dongguan, China.

The research demonstrated the fragments may become airborne in a way similar to dust, pollen and fine particulate matter from vehicle exhausts.

While there's growing concern about the environmental impact of microplastics, scientists have yet to determine what effect, if any, the minute particles have on humans or wildlife.

Bergmann, who co-authored the study, said the highest concentrations of microplastics were found in the Bavarian Alps, with one sample having more than 150,000 particles per 1 liter (0.26 gallons.)

Although the Arctic samples were less contaminated, the third-highest concentration in the samples the researchers analyzed—14,000 particles per liter—came from an ice floe in the Fram Strait off eastern Greenland, she said.

On average, the researchers found 1,800 particles per liter in the samples taken from that region.

Martin Wagner, a biologist at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology who wasn't involved with the study, said the extremely high concentrations could be partly attributed to the methods the researchers used, which allowed them to identify microplastics as small as 11 micrometers, or 0.011 millimeters—less than the width of a human hair.

"This is significant because most studies so far looked at much larger microplastics," he said. "Based on that, I would conclude that we very much underestimate the actual microplastics levels in the environment."

"Importantly, the study demonstrates that atmospheric transport is a relevant process moving microplastics around, potentially over long ranges and on a global scale," Wagner added. "Also, snow may be an important reservoir storing microplastics and releasing it during snow melt, something that has not been looked at before."

Bergmann said the microplastics detected in the study included varnish that may have been used to coat cars and ships, rubber found in tires and materials that could have originated in textiles or packaging.

The authors suggested that the airborne distribution of microscopic plastic particles has so far been neglected as a source of contamination and should be monitored in standard air pollution monitoring schemes.

"We really need to know what effects microplastics have on humans, especially if inhaled with the air that we breathe," Bergmann said.

AP

This undated photo provided by the 'Helmholtz cetre for polar and marine research the Alfred Wegener institute' shows snow samples from Tschuggen, Switzerland, locked and ready for transport to Davos.

Firefighters battle blaze in Greek island nature reserve

MAKRYMALLI, Greece (AP)—Greek firefighters backed by water-dropping planes and helicopters battled a wildfire on the island of Evia for a second day Wednesday, with flare-ups in hard-to-reach areas hampering efforts to bring the blaze fully under control.

The fire was burning through a protected nature reserve on Greece's second largest island. A massive firefighting effort managed to prevent it spreading to inhabited areas, and some residents of Makrimalli and Platanas, two of the four villages evacuated the previous day, began returning to their homes Wednesday afternoon.

Seven planes and seven helicopters as well as two planes sent from Italy, were tackling the blaze, concentrating on areas where access to the dense pine forest, which includes canyons, was difficult by land. More than 250 firefighters, soldiers and volunteers were battling the wildfire that broke out at 3 a.m. Tuesday. The cause is under investigation.

By late Wednesday afternoon, flare-ups were occurring mainly deep inside the forest and far from inhabited areas. Strong winds that had fanned the flames Tuesday and carried smoke as far as the Greek capital, Athens, around 70 kilometers (47 miles) to the south, died down, leading officials to express cautious optimism.

"Things are better, but ... no complacency is allowed and I would ask everyone to carefully follow the orders and directions of the civil protection authority and the fire department," Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said during a visit to the area.

Thanking firefighters for their efforts, Mitsotakis said "drastic interventions" would be made in the way that civil protection operates.

"I am satisfied by the level of coordination but there is still other work that needs to be done," he said. "We know that wildfires will be with us. They will be part, as they have always been, of our daily life as climate change is taking its toll on southern Europe."

Authorities said around 28 square kilometers (2,800 hectares) had been burnt by midday Wednesday. One volunteer firefighter was hospitalized with second and third degree burns and was to undergo surgery Thursday, Health Minister Vassilis Kikilias said after visiting the injured man in hospital. Kikilias said the state would cover all rehabilitation expenses for the volunteer firefighter.

UK Labour leader lays out plan to stop a no-deal Brexit

LONDON (AP)—The leader of Britain's biggest opposition party on Wednesday urged other opposition forces to unite, topple Prime Minister Boris Johnson's Conservative government and prevent Britain from leaving the European Union in October without a divorce agreement.

The move came after Johnson accused anti-Brexit U.K. politicians of collaborating with the EU to stymie Britain's exit from the bloc.

Jeremy Corbyn, who heads the main opposition Labour Party, said he planned to call a no-confidence vote in Johnson's government "at the earliest opportunity when we can be confident of success" once Parliament returns from its summer break in September.

In a letter to other opposition leaders and pro-EU Conservative lawmakers, the Labour chief said Parliament should then unite behind a Corbyn-led "temporary government" that would seek a delay to Brexit day—currently scheduled for Oct. 31—and call a national election.

The plan is feasible under Parliament's rules, but is likely to face resistance. The smaller opposition parties agree on the need to avoid a no-deal Brexit, but don't want to put Corbyn—a veteran left-winger whom many distrust—in power. Labour, meanwhile, is likely to oppose a politician from any other party heading a national unity government.

Johnson has vowed that Britain will leave the EU on Oct. 31—just 11 weeks away—with or without a divorce deal. He is demanding the EU make major changes to the agreement the bloc made with his predecessor, Theresa May. The EU refuses to renegotiate, so a no-deal Brexit appears increasingly likely.

Johnson claimed Wednesday there was "a terrible kind of collaboration" between an intransigent EU and U.K. politicians who want to prevent Brexit.

"We need our European friends to compromise, and the more they think there's a chance Brexit can be blocked in Parliament the more adamant they are of sticking to their positon," Johnson said during a question-and-answer session on Facebook.

Many economists say leaving the EU without an agreement on the terms will trigger a recession and cause economic mayhem, with shortages of fresh food and other goods likely as customs checks snarl Britain's ports.

Johnson and other Brexit supporters argue that any short-term turbulence will be outweighed by new economic opportunities once Britain leaves the 28-nation bloc and can strike trade deals around the world—notably with the United States. Critics note that the EU accounts for almost half of Britain's trade and any new trade deals are likely years away.

Philip Hammond, who was Britain's Treasury chief until three weeks ago, accused Johnson on Wednesday of steering the country toward a damaging no-deal Brexit that isn't backed by Parliament or British voters.

Hammond, a Conservative legislator who stepped down as finance minister just before Johnson became prime minister last month, told the BBC that Johnson had moved from a tough negotiating stance to a "wrecking" one by insisting on changes to the withdrawal agreement between Britain and the EU that the bloc would not accept.

He said while he believed Johnson wanted a deal, "there are other people around him whose agenda is different"—an apparent reference to advisers such as Dominic Cummings, one of the architects of the country's 2016 decision to leave the EU.

Science & Technology

Europe wrestles with electric scooters

People ride on electric scooters in Paris, Monday, Aug. 12, 2019.
AP

PARIS (AP)—Ban them outright. Issue speeding tickets. Make users take a driving test. From Paris to Berlin, European cities are searching for solutions to the two-wheeled phenomenon that's fast transforming cityscapes worldwide: Electric scooters.

Proponents call them a leap into the future, an exhilarating, app-based way to zip from the Louvre to the Eiffel Tower without generating planet-choking pollution.

Rubbish, say critics, noting growing numbers of injuries and even deaths involving e-scooters. They decry a new nuisance to pedestrians, cyclists and drivers who are already battling for limited space on city streets.

Across the U.S., cities are also struggling to regulate companies renting the vehicles and keep riders safe. Here's what some European countries are doing about it:

FRANCE

France's government met Monday with the victims of scooter accidents as it prepares new rules. Paris alone has more free-floating scooter companies than the entire United States, according to a June study, and at least 20,000 of the vehicles whizzing through its historic streets.

Most are app-based, rented scooters that you pick up and drop off wherever you want, and that's especially appealing to tourists and teens. But victims' groups say these users don't know French road rules and can't always be held liable for accidents. One scooter driver has been killed in Paris and scores injured this year.

Paris imposes 135-euro ($150) fines for riding e-scooters on the sidewalk. The mayor wants to limit scooter speeds to 20 kilometers per hour (12 mph) in most areas, and 8 kilometers per hour (5 mph) in areas with heavy foot traffic. She plans to limit the number of operators to three and cap the number of scooters.

New rules expected in September will expand those limits nationwide, and include potential speeding fines up to 1,500 euros ($1,680).

Critics say current proposals don't go far enough. Some want age limits for riders, and to require them to take driving tests and have insurance, so that governments don't have to pay for medical care or other damage they cause.

GERMANY

Berlin legalized electric scooters two months ago and quickly realized it needs tougher rules.

Last week, city officials in the German capital announced plans for on-street parking zones for the battery-powered vehicles, which are often left haphazardly on sidewalks. Berlin police will also step up patrols to prevent illegal behavior such as doubling.

German police say 34 people have been injured in scooter accidents just since mid-June, saying most were due to riders behaving carelessly.

While pro-scooter folks say they're a way to cut down on more polluting forms of transport, the anti-scooter faction says they're mainly used by people who would otherwise walk or take public transport anyway.

BRITAIN

In the U.K., e-scooters are banned from sidewalks and it is an offense to use them on the roads because they don't comply with laws requiring insurance, taxes and driver testing. Advocates have protested, arguing that it's time for a change in regulations.

Television presenter and YouTube personality Emily Hartridge, 35, became the first person in Britain killed while riding an e-scooter when she was struck by a truck in in south London on July 12.

The following day, a 14-year-old boy suffered a head injury after crashing into a bus stop in southeast London.

SPAIN

Electric scooters dot the urban landscapes of major Spanish cities and the official traffic regulator has prepared new guidelines—but their approval hinges on Spanish politicians forming a new national government after a hung parliament emerged from April's national election.

In the meantime, cities have adopted a hodge-podge of restrictions.

Helmets are only mandatory in Madrid for those under 16. Yet they are compulsory for everyone in Barcelona, where a 92-year-old died after she was run over by an electric scooter. The rider was investigated for involuntary homicide but was ultimately only fined because of the lack of regulations.

In Madrid, the city requires scooter-users to operate only in roads with no more than one lane per way, while imposing a maximum speed limit of 30 kilometers per hour (18 mph).

Seville last week joined the scooter ride-sharing frenzy, but the southern city's rental operator is testing a way to self-restrict rides to and from designated private parking spots.

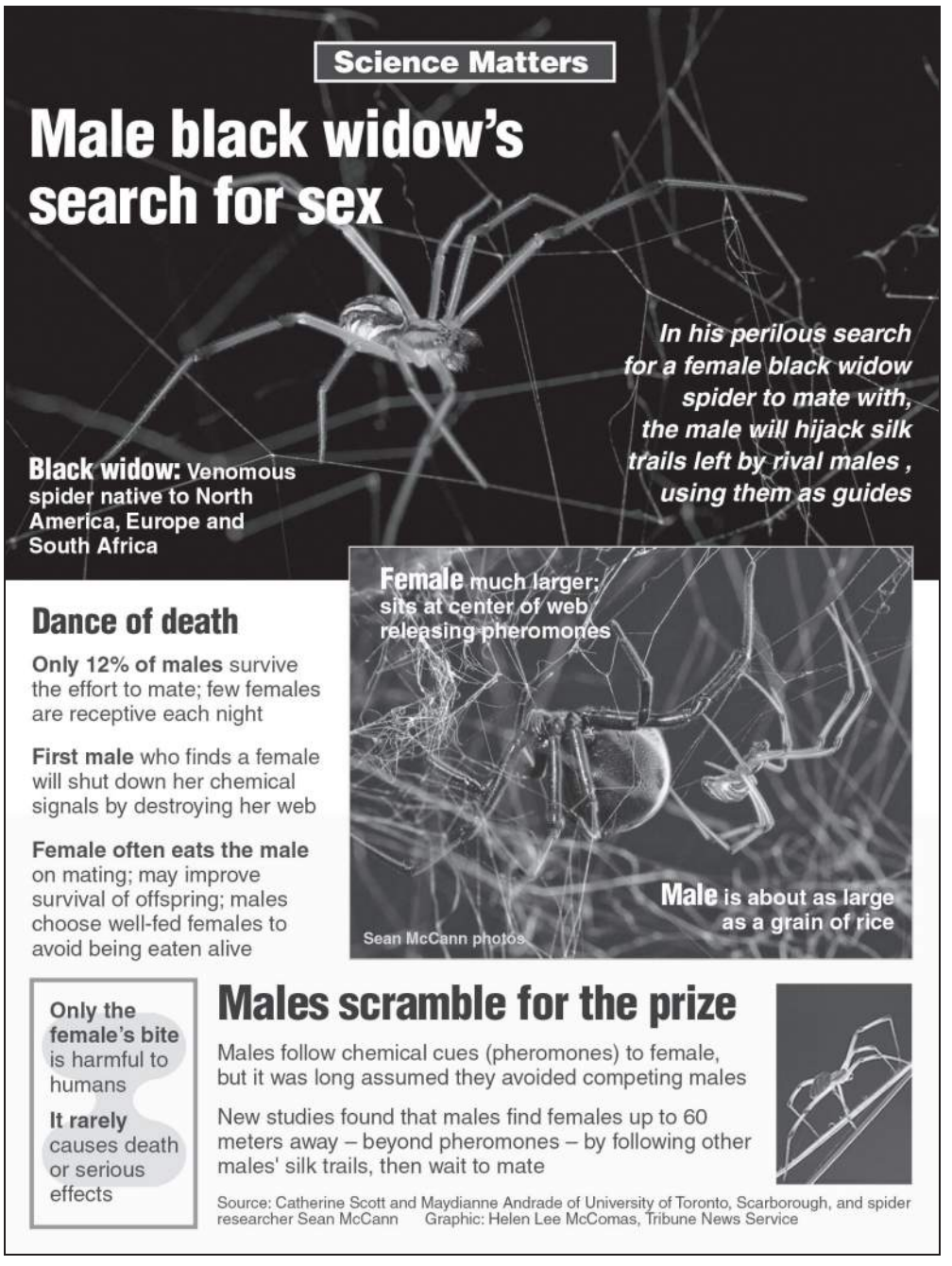
BELGIUM

Brussels—the capital of Belgium and the European Union—has been inundated with e-scooters over the last year.

But each of the 19 municipalities that make up Brussels has its own rules on the vehicles. Some impose fines or speed limits, while others impose parking restrictions.

The Brussels region is now gathering information from all these municipalities to streamline the rules. A city spokeswoman said there has been one deadly accident so far involving e-scooters and a major hospital says it's treating up to two injuries a day related to scooter incidents.

Helmets are not required by law, but debate is swirling around obliging scooter and mono-wheel riders to wear them.


Science Matters
Male black widow's search for sex
In his perilous search for a female black widow spider to mate with, the male will hijack silk trails left by rival males , using them as guides
Black widow: Venomous spider native to North America, Europe and South Africa
Female much larger; sits at center of web releasing pheromones
Male is about as large as a grain of rice
Sean McCann photos
Dance of death
Only 12% of males survive the effort to mate; few females are receptive each night
First male who finds a female will shut down her chemical signals by destroying her web
Female often eats the male on mating; may improve survival of offspring; males choose well-fed females to avoid being eaten alive
Only the female's bite is harmful to humans
It rarely causes death or serious effects
Males scramble for the prize
Males follow chemical cues (pheromones) to female, but it was long assumed they avoided competing males
New studies found that males find females up to 60 meters away – beyond pheromones – by following other males' silk trails, then wait to mate
Source: Catherine Scott and Maydianne Andrade of University of Toronto, Scarborough, and spider researcher Sean McCann Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

Facebook games harder to play as 'Flash' ends

TECH Q&A

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune*. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Q: I have trouble playing Facebook games because my Flash Player software settings seem to disappear. What's wrong?

A: You are caught in an internet technology transition. Websites and browsers are moving away from the Flash animation and graphics technology, which has been vulnerable to hacker attacks.

Adobe Systems, the owner of Flash, set the stage for this change in 2017, when it announced that Flash will be phased out by the end of December 2020. That caused websites such as Facebook to say their games would switch to another animation technology. Meanwhile, web browser makers Google (Chrome), Mozilla (Firefox) and Microsoft (internet Explorer and Edge) also began phasing out Flash.

Your problem is that the browsers are making the transition faster than Facebook is.

Here is why that matters: Each time you enable Flash on Facebook, you are really making a settings change in your web browser, not the Facebook website. But browser companies are making it more difficult for you to keep those Flash settings. For example, the Chrome browser is now designed to forget your Flash settings every time you close the browser, forcing you to enable Flash again each time you begin a browsing session.

Future browsers won't be able to use Flash at all. For Chrome, Firefox, Edge and Internet Explorer, that happens near the end of 2020.

There is nothing you can do about this except be patient while Facebook games make the switch from Flash to another technology that web browsers support.

Q: My two-year-old laptop has been trying to update Windows 10 every day or two. But the update (called KB4507435, or "cumulative update for Windows 10 version 1803" for 64-bit PCs) fails to install every time. What should I do?

A: You can skip that update and go on to the next one, which is far more important.

The update you are having trouble with is one of the last fixes for the nearly obsolete version of Windows 10 that you have (version 1803, which expires in November.) You would be better off to skip that update and instead download the newest version of Windows 10 (version 1903, which became available to Windows 10 Home and Pro customers in July.) These updates to a new version of Windows 10 usually work smoothly.

Even so, here are some ways to make sure all goes well:

■ Make sure your hard disk has 32 gigabytes of free space; that is how much storage capacity is needed to process the update. Previously, this type of upgrade required only 20 gigabytes of free disk space.

■ Disconnect attached PC devices, such as flash drives, external hard drives, printers or scanners.

■ If you are using a non-Microsoft antivirus program, temporarily disable it (some antivirus programs, such as Avast, can interfere with the update.)

You can download the 1903 update by opening the toolbar's "settings" icon toolbar and clicking "update and security." Under "Windows update," click "check for updates." If the 1903 update is shown, click "download and install now." (For other methods, see tinyurl.com/y39m3qec).

Off The Wall

Monster penguin once swam New Zealand seas

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Scientists in New Zealand said Wednesday they've found fossilized bones from an extinct monster penguin that was about the size of an adult human and swam the oceans some 60 million years ago.

They said the previously undiscovered species is believed to have stood about 1.6 meters (5 feet 2 inches) tall and weighed up to 80 kilograms (176 pounds). It's believed to have been one of several species of giant penguins that thrived soon after dinosaurs died out.

The findings were published this week in "Alcheringa: An Australasian Journal of Palaeontology."

Paul Scofield, a co-author of the paper and senior curator at the Canterbury Museum, said the discovery is significant because the species is similar to another giant penguin found in Antarctica in 2000 and helps show a connection between the two regions during the Paleocene Epoch.

He said that following the extinction of dinosaurs, marine reptiles and gigantic fish, it seemed there was an evolutionary opportunity for penguins to thrive and grow in size.

"The oceans were ripe for the picking with the lack of mega predators," Scofield said. "It looks like what was going on was that penguins were just starting to exploit that niche."

But he said the giant penguins themselves became extinct within 30 million years as large marine mammals began ruling the waters.

The monster penguins, named Crossvallia waiparensis, would have been about twice the weight and 30 centimeters (1 foot) taller than the largest type of penguins alive today, emperor penguins.

Scofield said the leg bones indicated the monster penguin's feet may have played a bigger role in swimming than is the case with penguins today.

New Zealand is believed to have been the site of many gigantic birds that later became extinct, including the world's largest parrot, a giant eagle and an emu-like bird called the moa. Scientists say the lack of predators allowed such birds to thrive.

The monster penguin's bones, from its legs and feet, were found by amateur enthusiast Leigh Love about 18 months ago in the Waipara River bed near the South Island city of Christchurch.

Love said he spotted the fragments in an eroding bank.

"It wasn't until I got the fossils home and did a little preparation that I realized I had something completely different than what had been found before," he said.

Love said his passion for collecting fossils began about 14 years ago after chronic fatigue syndrome prevented him from working for several years.

"It inspires me to go out and look for more," he said.

Massey University Professor John Cockrem, a penguin expert who wasn't involved in the research, said the discovery was significant in adding to knowledge about giant penguins and cementing New Zealand's place as the penguin center of the world.

Ewan Fordyce, a paleontology professor from the University of Otago who also wasn't involved in the research, said the penguin was among the oldest ever found. He said one challenge was trying to determine the overall size of the birds from skeleton fragments, but added that it was a challenge everybody in the field faced.

AP

Dr. Paul Scofield, senior curator natural history at Canterbury Museum, holds the fossil, a tibiotarsus, top, next to a similar bone of an Emperor Penguin in Christchurch, New Zealand, Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2019.

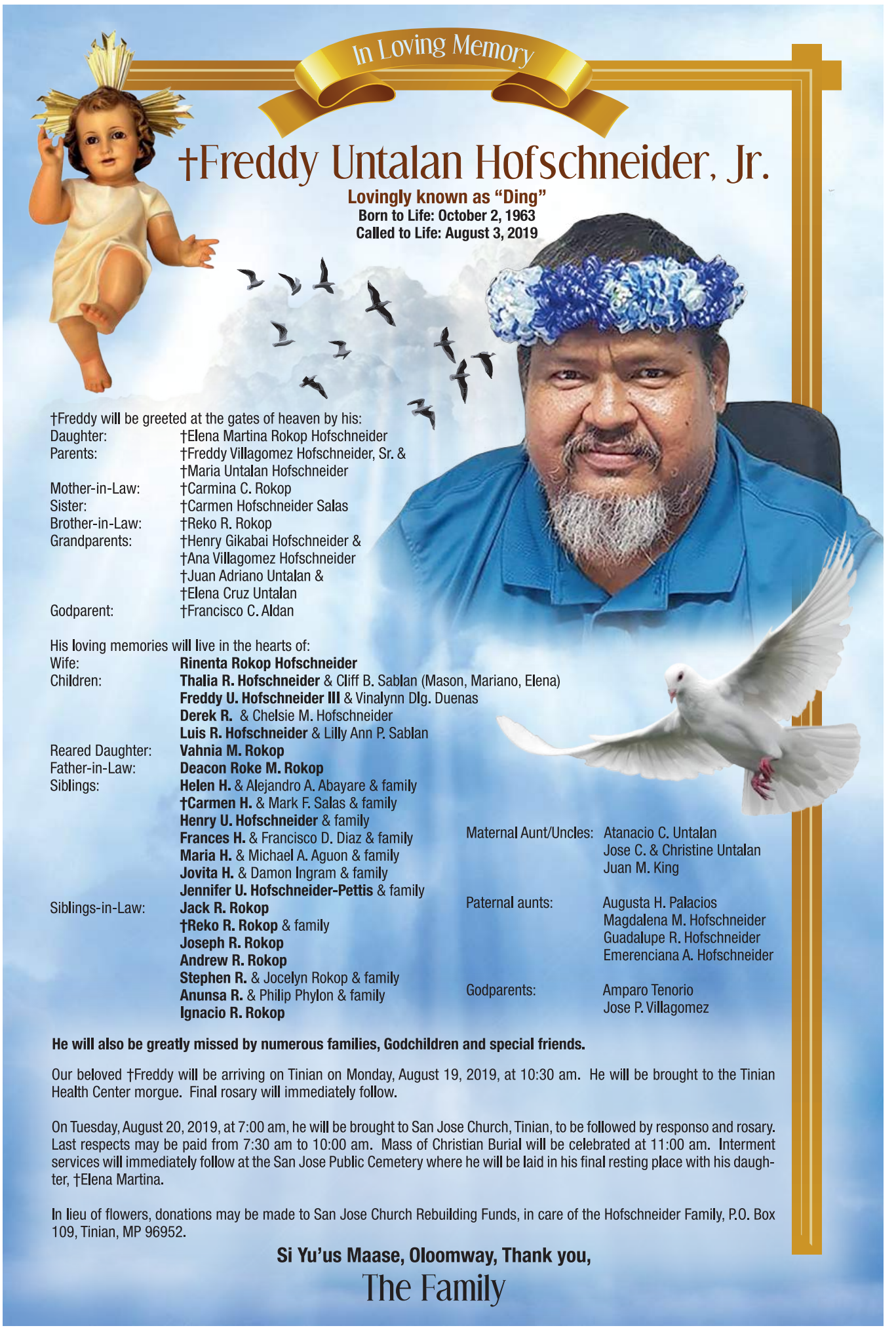
OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Son can't use name shared with dad to market competing firm

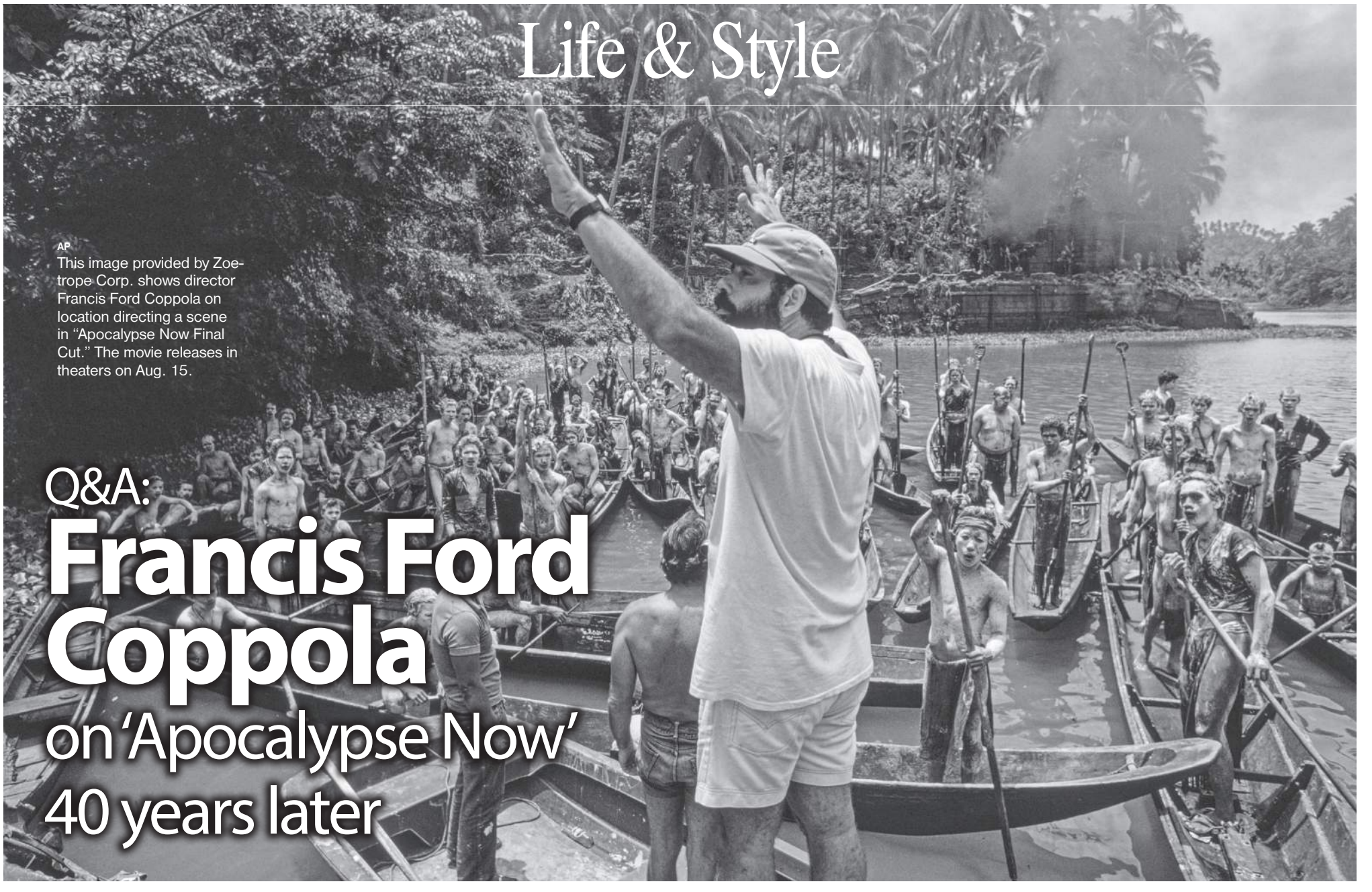
NORTH CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—A South Carolina personal injury lawyer known for his ads has won an order keeping his son from using their shared name to market a competing law firm. The Post and Courier reports that a federal judge says George Sink Jr. cannot use that name in any sort of marketing until an arbitrator considers the matter. George Sink Sr. fired his son in February, nearly a year after he began working for George Sink P.A. Personal Injury Lawyers. Days later, Sink Jr. opened George Sink II Law Firm. Judge David Norton's temporary order Friday said the names and logos are confusingly similar. He says the older firm has spent "an exorbitant amount of money" on ads, and it wouldn't be fair to let the son benefit from that marketing.

50 old TVs mysteriously appear on neighborhood's porches

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Police in Virginia say more than 50 television sets have been mysteriously placed on front porches in a neighborhood outside Richmond. Henrico County police Lt. Matt Pecka said residents found older model televisions outside their front doors Sunday morning. He told the Richmond Times-Dispatch that video from one doorbell camera showed a person wearing TV-shaped headgear while dropping off a TV set. Police believe that more than one person is responsible. A similar incident occurred in a nearby neighborhood last year. It's unclear if the incident is a crime. Pecka said that dropping off the televisions on front porches is "at most" illegal dumping. Most of the TVs will be recycled. But a couple residents indicated they would keep their televisions for now.


In Loving Memory
†Freddy Untalan Hofschneider, Jr.
Lovingly known as "Ding"
Born to Life: October 2, 1963
Called to Life: August 3, 2019
†Freddy will be greeted at the gates of heaven by his:
Daughter: †Elena Martina Rokop Hofschneider
Parents: †Freddy Villagomez Hofschneider, Sr. & †Maria Untalan Hofschneider
Mother-in-Law: †Carmina C. Rokop
Sister: †Carmen Hofschneider Salas
Brother-in-Law: †Reko R. Rokop
Grandparents: †Henry Gikabai Hofschneider & †Ana Villagomez Hofschneider
†Juan Adriano Untalan & †Elena Cruz Untalan
Godparent: †Francisco C. Aldan
His loving memories will live in the hearts of:
Wife: Rinenta Rokop Hofschneider
Children: Thalia R. Hofschneider & Cliff B. Sablan (Mason, Mariano, Elena)
Freddy U. Hofschneider III & Vinalynn Dlg. Duenas
Derek R. & Chelsie M. Hofschneider
Luis R. Hofschneider & Lilly Ann P. Sablan
Reared Daughter: Vahnia M. Rokop
Father-in-Law: Deacon Roke M. Rokop
Siblings: Helen H. & Alejandro A. Abayare & family
†Carmen H. & Mark F. Salas & family
Henry U. Hofschneider & family
Frances H. & Francisco D. Diaz & family
Maria H. & Michael A. Aguon & family
Jovita H. & Damon Ingram & family
Jennifer U. Hofschneider-Pettis & family
Siblings-in-Law: Jack R. Rokop
†Reko R. Rokop & family
Joseph R. Rokop
Andrew R. Rokop
Stephen R. & Jocelyn Rokop & family
Anunsa R. & Philip Phylon & family
Ignacio R. Rokop
Maternal Aunt/Uncles: Atanacio C. Untalan
Jose C. & Christine Untalan
Juan M. King
Paternal aunts: Augusta H. Palacios
Magdalena M. Hofschneider
Guadalupe R. Hofschneider
Emerenciana A. Hofschneider
Godparents: Amparo Tenorio
Jose P. Villagomez
He will also be greatly missed by numerous families, Godchildren and special friends.
Our beloved †Freddy will be arriving on Tinian on Monday, August 19, 2019, at 10:30 am. He will be brought to the Tinian Health Center morgue. Final rosary will immediately follow.
On Tuesday, August 20, 2019, at 7:00 am, he will be brought to San Jose Church, Tinian, to be followed by responso and rosary. Last respects may be paid from 7:30 am to 10:00 am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am. Interment services will immediately follow at the San Jose Public Cemetery where he will be laid in his final resting place with his daughter, †Elena Martina.
In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to San Jose Church Rebuilding Funds, in care of the Hofschneider Family, P.O. Box 109, Tinian, MP 96952.
Si Yu'us Maase, Oloomway, Thank you,
The Family

Life & Style



AP
This image provided by Zoetrope Corp. shows director Francis Ford Coppola on location directing a scene in "Apocalypse Now Final Cut." The movie releases in theaters on Aug. 15.

Q&A: Francis Ford Coppola on 'Apocalypse Now' 40 years later

By JAKE COYLE
AP FILM WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—If filmmaking is a war, then "Apocalypse Now" was very nearly Francis Ford Coppola's Waterloo.

The battles Coppola fought while making his 1979 epic nearly destroyed him. A typhoon wrecked a major set. Harvey Keitel was replaced by Martin Sheen. Coppola searched desperately for an ending. He worked even harder to coax a few lines out of Marlon Brando.

But out of that tumult Coppola created a masterpiece. And 40 years later, "Apocalypse Now" has never looked so good.

Coppola has supervised a 4K restoration of the film and, for the second time, tweaked the cut. Having perhaps gone too far in his 2001 "Redux," which added 53 minutes, "Apocalypse Now Final Cut," which opens in theaters Thursday and on home video Aug. 27, splits the difference at 183 minutes.

In its present and restored form, the majesty and madness of "Apocalypse Now" is more vivid and hallucinatory than ever. Coppola considers it the definitive version. It completes a four decade journey turning what was almost a mess into the masterwork he envisioned from the start.

Coppola, 80, has lately been busy with equally audacious plans.

In 2017, he published a book, "Live Cinema and its Techniques," about his experiments and hopes for a new art form that combines cinema, television and theater in a live experience. He's also recently returned to a long delayed passion project, "Megalopolis," a sprawling sci-fi, New York-set epic. Coppola has been working on the script and casting, and searching for production partners. "Or maybe now it's at the stage I can do it by myself, I don't know," he says.

In a recent interview, Coppola spoke about "Apocalypse Now" then and now, why he was "terrified" after making it and why he has so much trouble letting go.

AP: You've talked before about the theatrical version of "Apocalypse Now" missing some of the "weirdness" you wanted. What did you mean?

Coppola: In the 1979 version when it first opened, the various people who had sponsored it and were distributing it felt that it was too long and too weird. So we went through a tough few evenings trying to make it shorter and trying to make it appear more normal as opposed to "weird." So we took some things out. Some of them were just 30 seconds long or a minute long but generally we were trying to make it shorter and less weird, which I guess is another word for "surreal." After it was clear the movie had survived—meaning, you never know when you make a movie if its opening is going to be the last you heard of it or it's going to have a life after that—I was looking at it on television and it didn't seem so weird or surreal. It stuck out less as something unusual. For that reason, people kept saying to me, "Maybe you should have put back what you took out."

AP: Did you consciously want to put your stamp on the war movie?

Coppola: The Vietnam War was different than other American wars. It was a West Coast sensibility rather than an East Coast sensibility. In war movies before "Apocalypse," there was always a sort of Brooklyn character, an East Coast and Midwest personality. In "Apocalypse Now," it was LA and it was surfing and it was drugs and it was rock 'n' roll so it was more of a West Coast ambiance to the war. In addition, there were many sort of odd contradictions that related to the morality involved. There was a line I once read that's not in the film but to me it sums up the meaning of the movie. It was: "We teach the boys to drop fire on people yet we won't let them write the word 'f---' on their airplanes because it's obscene."

AP: You've gone back and made changes to a number of your films. For you, is a film ever really finished?

Coppola: The only reason I'm in a position to go back and evaluate some of these decisions is because I own the film, which is the same reason George Lucas looks at some of his movies. Obviously most filmmakers don't own their films and would not be permitted to change a cut. But the version that you open with, you're very concerned that it will have some longevity. And so you may do things for the opening that you'd rather not do but you don't want to risk a negative reception because a film that opens with a negative reception is dead. If you can get it to be a positive reception or even a qualified positive reception then it has a chance of surviving. If you look at all the films I made, only "The Godfather" was just a runaway creative hit. Most of the other films were highly qualified and that meant that I was trying to nurse them into persisting and surviving. Later on, since I own them, I very often decided to undo things that were pushed on me by distributors or people at the time, and do what I wanted to do.

AP: Eleanor Coppola, your wife, wrote in her "Notes" that you took on some of Kurtz' megalomania while making "Apocalypse Now."

Coppola: Whenever I made a movie, I was always personally compared to the main character. When I was doing "The Godfather," I was Michael Corleone, Machiavellian and sly. When I made "Apocalypse Now," I was the megalomaniac. When I made "Tucker," I was the innovative entrepreneur. The truth of the matter is all my life if I have been anything I've been enthusiastic and imaginative. I don't have talent that I wish I had. My talent was more enthusiasm and imagination and a kind of prescient sense, a sense of knowing what's going to happens before it happens. Other than that, my talent is limited.

AP: A recent Film Comment essay lamented the film's portrayal of the Vietnam as "a spectacular but soulless backdrop."

Coppola: It would have been interesting and good if the movie had been made in Vietnam. But the truth of the matter is when we were making "Apocalypse Now," the Vietnamese War was only winding down. We did not have access to going there. We were making it in the Philippines and although we did have some Vietnamese people with us, it wasn't the same as making it in Vietnam which would have made it possible to give an impression of the Vietnamese people, who I have only the highest regard for. When you make a war film, it's from one side unless it's "Tora! Tora! Tora!" and you're deliberately deciding to depict both sides equally. This film was specifically about these young California Americans participating in this war, and that was the lens this film was made through.

AP: Did you emerge from "Apocalypse Now" a different filmmaker?

Coppola: Yeah, but no more than I was after the extreme experience of the "Godfather" movie. Every film I have made has been a new sheet of paper. I rarely would repeat a style. Every movie I worked on, I came out of it being a different person.

AP: How did you feel after "Apocalypse Now"?

Coppola: I was terrified. For one thing, I was on the hook for the whole budget personally—that's why I came to own it. In addition, in those days interest was over 25, 27%. So it looked as though, especially given the controversy and all the bogus articles being written about a movie that no one knew anything about but were predicting it was "the heralded mess" of that year, it looked as though I was never going to get out of the jeopardy I was in. I had kids, I was young. I had no family fortune behind me. I was scared stiff. It was no different after "Godfather." ''Godfather" was a project I was constantly about to be fired from, that the studio hated what I was doing looked like. I didn't think I was going to survive that. All of those movies, which were these monumental attempts at art, left me in a different place when I finished than when I started. But then it was followed by another one that was a similar challenge. I'm 80 now but from age 25 to 60, my life was one crisis after another.

A$AP Rocky found guilty of Sweden assault, won't face prison

By DAVID KEYTON and JAN M. OLSEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

STOCKHOLM (AP)—American rapper A$AP Rocky was found guilty of assault Wednesday by a Swedish court, six weeks after a street brawl in Stockholm that had attracted the attention of U.S. President Donald Trump.

A judge and jury found the rapper, whose real name is Rakim Mayers, and his two bodyguards guilty of unlawfully hitting and kicking a 19-year-old man during the June 30 fight.

AP
A$AP Rocky, background right, leaves the district court in Stockholm by car, after the third day of his trial, Friday, Aug. 2, 2019.

Despite the verdict, the defendants will not be returning to prison as the court gave them "conditional sentences" for the assault convictions. That means they don't have to serve prison time unless they commit a similar offense in Sweden again.

The three, who spent nearly a month behind bars before being released Aug. 2, returned to the United States.

Though they were spared further jail time, the defendants have been ordered to a pay a total of 12,500 kronor ($1,310) in compensation to the victim.

Slobodan Jovicic, the Grammy-nominated artist's Swedish defense lawyer, said he had been looking for "a complete acquittal" and expressed his disappointment at the verdict.

Mayers, 30, had pleaded self-defense and said the fight happened after he tried to avoid a confrontation with the two men he claimed had persisted in following his entourage. One of them picked a fight with one of the bodyguards, Mayers said during his trial.

But the court concluded the defendants were "not subject to a current or imminent criminal attack" and as a result "were not in a situation where they were entitled to self-defense."

"In an overall assessment the court finds that the assault has not been of such a serious nature that a prison sentence must be chosen," the summary states.

During the trial, prosecutors played video footage that showed Mayers throwing a young man to the ground.

Presiding Judge Per Lennerbrant said the evidence shows 19-year-old Mustafa Jafari was struck in the back of the head with a bottle but that it could "not be established by whom." That determination was a factor in the verdict since it "affected the assessment of the seriousness of the crime," the judge said.

"The overall evidentiary situation in the case has been complex," he said.

CMA voters consider whether to nominate 'Old Town Road'

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Though Lil Nas X has broken chart records and become a streaming juggernaut with his breakout country rap hit "Old Town Road" with Billy Ray Cyrus, the song faces an uphill challenge to get a nomination for a CMA award.

Ballots have gone out for nominations for the Country Music Association Awards, but some voters are struggling to decide how to recognize the musical phenomenon of the year, which has become the longest running No. 1 song in the history of Billboard's Hot 100.

Billboard decided "Old Town Road" wasn't a country song and pulled it off country charts early on, but the song made enough of an impact anyway that it became eligible for a number of CMA categories this year, including single of the year and song of the year. CMA voters, which include musicians, producers, songwriters, touring professionals, country radio employees and others, vote in three ballots with the final nominations typically being announced in late August or early September. The award show will air Nov. 13.

But there are already signs that the song isn't getting wide support. It failed to get enough votes in the major song categories. The song only earned enough votes to be considered in the musical event category on the second ballot, which went out to voters Monday.

Shane McAnally, one of country's biggest hit-makers who has written for Sam Hunt, Kacey Musgraves, Kenny Chesney and more, said he's been impressed with the way the song has resonated with fans, but it never felt country to him.

"I just think country people do not see that as a country song," said McAnally, who is co-president of Monument Records and one of three producers on NBC's song competition series, "Songland." ''Pop listeners think it's a country song."

The song's genreless approach by mixing trap beats with a Nine Inch Nails sample and Western-themed lyrics appealed to millennials on TikTok but took Nashville's music industry by surprise. While pop, rap and rock artists have gotten CMA nominations before, it's a lot harder to earn a nomination without broad support among Nashville's labels and country radio.

European theaters mostly wait-and-see on Domingo accusations

MILAN (AP)—While two U.S. opera houses immediately canceled performances by famed tenor Placido Domingo following sexual harassment allegations, European opera houses are taking stances ranging from supportive to wait-and-see.

The Philadelphia Orchestra and San Francisco Opera immediately announced they would cancel upcoming performances featuring the star and the Los Angeles Opera opened an investigation following an Associated Press story in which numerous women accused the opera legend of sexual harassment and inappropriate behavior spanning decades.

In Europe, there were no immediate cancellations of the 78-year-old Domingo's performances and even some words of support for the star. Opera world officials noted that no charges had been brought against Domingo and no formal judicial investigations were underway that might provide legal underpinning to cancel any contractual obligations.

The stark differences in the levels of urgency in the responses underline the differences in the footing of the #MeToo movement on both sides of the Atlantic.

Opera houses in the United States might consider the possibility of damaging protests outside their venues if they maintained the scheduled performances. But, in Europe Domingo's status as one of the most popular and influential figures in the opera world could trigger a backlash against venues if performances were canceled without due process, said one opera official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of lack of authorization to discuss personnel matters.

"Some attitudes, seen in hindsight, risk being misunderstood," cultural journalist Leonetta Bentivoglio wrote Wednesday in the Italian newspaper La Repubblica. "That he was a Don Juan was something everyone knew, and in the promiscuous theater world he is not alone. We must add that his charm has always attracted a crowd of women, and often it was he who had to defend himself."

Bentivoglio recalled an incident at a Paris hotel during Domingo's "Three Tenors" heyday with Luciano Pavarotti and Jose Carreras, when he asked journalists to pretend to accompany him in the elevator "to escape to his room without being followed by some beautiful young women," who were in pursuit.

Husband, son desert woman to comfort her mother-in-law

DEAR ABBY: My brother-in-law passed away six months ago, and my mother-in-law, "Grace," is understandably grief-stricken. My husband and son have been very supportive of her. My father-in-law passed away nine years ago. I have tried to be supportive as well, but Grace and I have always had a contentious relationship, and she really wants nothing to do with me.

The problem is, my husband and son have all but disowned me. They spend an enormous amount of time comforting and consoling her to the point that there's no affection or time left for me. I have tried talking to them about it, but they tell me I'm being selfish.

I realize my mother-in-law has had an enormous loss, but she refuses to interact with anyone else! Other family members have tried to console her, but she only wants my husband and son. I thought it would be for a short while, but this seems to be permanent. They have shut me out of their lives.

I have begun going out with my own friends and living my life on my own, but I miss my family. My parents and brother died some time ago, so they are all the family I have. Am I selfish, and should I let this continue? How do I just live my life alone now?

LONELY IN THE EAST

DEAR LONELY: While I sympathize with your mother-in-law, it appears there is more going on here than the fact that she's grieving. That Grace has shut out her other relatives and has allowed herself to become dependent upon your husband and son to the extent that it is harming your marriage isn't healthy for any of you. If this continues, counseling may be in order for ALL of you—grief counseling and support for "Mama" and marriage and family counseling to save your relationship with your husband and son. Please don't take what I am advising lightly.

DEAR ABBY: Recently, my elderly father and his girlfriend threw a wedding for themselves. Invitations were sent with requests that included: dinner was to be a potluck, guests were asked to provide singing and music for the entertainment, and a note was enclosed that read, "In lieu of gifts, a monetary donation for our honeymoon fund would really make our day."

Now, weeks later, I have found out it was a huge charade. There was no wedding. What do I say to them? More than 50 friends and family attended this joke ceremony. Bear in mind, the bride and groom have been married multiple times before, and I now question the validity of those marriages.

DUPED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR DUPED: If guests traveled a long distance to attend the "wedding" as well as contributed money toward the "honeymoon," I can see why they would be upset about the fraud. I can also see why in the future the happy couple will have lost credibility and will have trouble attracting a crowd to their next performance.

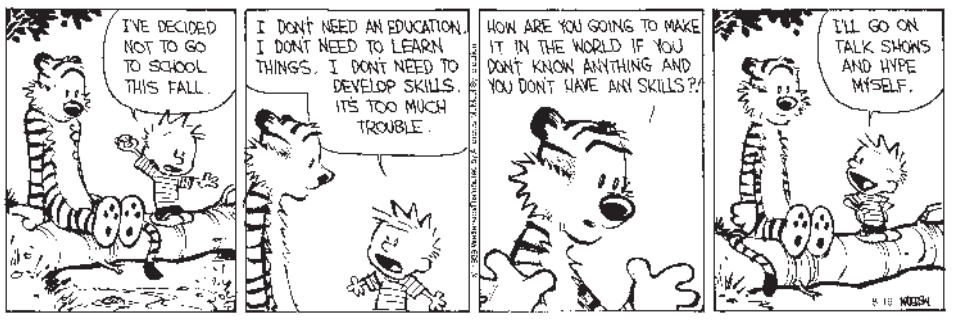
What should you say to them? If you think anything you might say would shame them, forget it. They are without shame. And if you are invited to another shindig, just say NO.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I'VE DECIDED NOT TO GO TO SCHOOL THIS FALL.
I DON'T NEED AN EDUCATION. I DON'T NEED TO LEARN THINGS. I DON'T NEED TO DEVELOP SKILLS. IT'S TOO MUCH TROUBLE.
HOW ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE IT IN THE WORLD IF YOU DON'T KNOW ANYTHING AND YOU DON'T HAVE ANY SKILLS?!
I'LL GO ON TALK SHOWS AND HYPE MYSELF.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

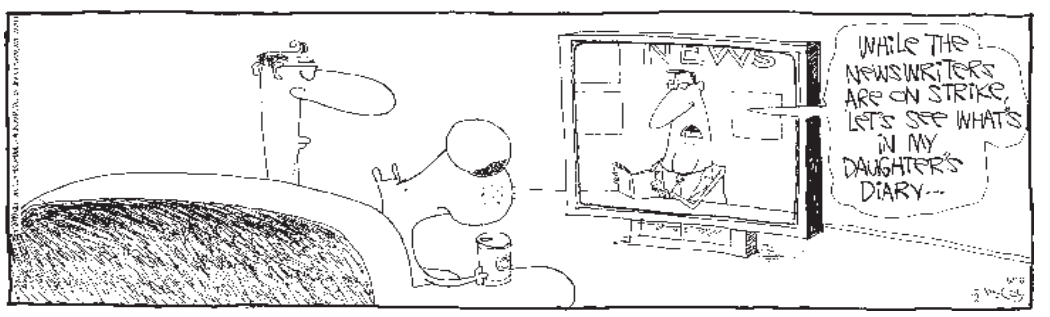
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

OH, BABY! WHY HAVEN'T I BEEN TAKING BATHS ALL ALONG?
OKAY. WE'RE IN HERE TO BRAINSTORM, ADAM. BOOK IDEAS. BOOK IDEAS.
A LAVENDER-SCENTED BUBBLE NAMED FLOATY LIVES IN A WARM CLOUD ABOVE SPLASHYTOWN!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Luau bowlful
4 "Toodle-oo!"
8 Pharmaceutical
12 1040 org.
13 Slanted type (Abbr.)
14 "It can't be!"
15 Old Don Adams TV show
17 Floral rings
18 Lacked originality
19 "The Bell Jar" author
20 Single-celled organism
22 Nile queen, familiarly
24 Spheres
25 Like a barbershop quartet's harmony
29 Buck-eyes' sch.
30 Pizza feature
31 Service charge
32 Fairway vehicle
34 Wilma's hubby
35 Joan of rock
36 Follows
37 Judean king
40 Pear type
41 — -friendly
42 Fruit pastry
46 Incursion
47 Ceremony
48 PBS funder
49 Metal boxes
50 Bigfoot's cousin
51 Jazz combo instrument

DOWN
1 Glutton
2 Mine yield
3 Turkey's most populous city
4 Used a stopwatch
5 Slightly
6 Roofing goo
7 Flight stat
8 Whipped cream serving
9 Ostrich kin
10 One
11 "Holy cow!"
16 Relaxing resorts
19 Impudent
20 Synthesizer pioneer
21 Guesser's words
22 Wimbledon arena
23 A deadly sin
25 Dorm alternative
26 Kenyans and Ethiopians
27 Stagger
28 Turner and Danson
30 Sent a dupe to
33 Norwegian inlets
34 Speedy
36 "Only You" actress Marisa
37 In pain
38 Actor Morales
39 Check
40 Cigar remnant
42 Snoop
43 Fib
44 Stephen of "Still Crazy"
45 Levy

Solution time: 25 mins.

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I	I	O	R		H	E	Y		L	E	N	O		
C	I	O		B	O	A		S	I	D	E	S		
T	O	M	S	E		L	E	C	K					
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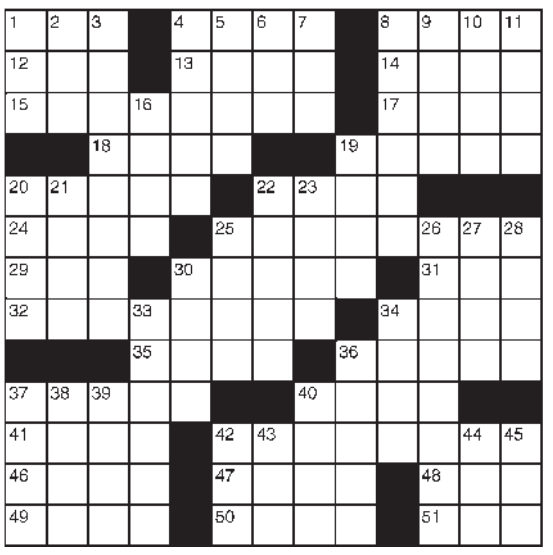
Yesterday's answer 8-16



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Cameron Monaghan, 26; Steve Carell, 57; Angela Bassett, 61; Madonna, 61.

Happy Birthday: A change in the way you handle your cash, fitness and any matters that have been holding you back mentally, emotionally, physically or financially should be addressed before you decide to make a move. Calm the waters before you plunge into something new. Opportunities are heading your way, but if you aren't prepared, you may miss a chance to advance. Your numbers are 6, 13, 23, 28, 32, 45, 49.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Don't let anyone put you down or hold you back. Look at the choices you have, and base your decisions on what will make you happy. Discuss your options with someone you love, and celebrate the decision you make together. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* You may think you need a change, but before you move forward, consider the cost involved and the consequence should the decisions you make not turn out to be sound. Choose practicality over chance, risk or an emotional whim. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Stick close to home and to people you can trust. An outsider will use the personal information you share to confuse you or encourage you to get involved with someone or something you shouldn't. Protect your home, your possessions and an essential relationship. ✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Check with people who know your family background or history if you're in doubt about the information that can influence a decision regarding your health, skills or personal documentation. A special bond will develop with someone who shares valuable information. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Look for the right moment to make a change. If you act before you think, you will end up regretting that you didn't take more time to assess the situation. Personal improvements should be geared toward better health and greater financial security. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Change the way you do things or the way you treat others, and you will gain respect and the help you need moving forward. An investment that will improve your surroundings or living quarters will lift your spirits. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Listen to what others have to say. An offer may not live up to the hype it's been given. Concentrate more on personal gains, challenges and self-improvement. A better health routine will pay off. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Stick to who and what makes you feel comfortable. Don't feel you have to make a snap decision if you aren't ready. If given an ultimatum, be prepared to walk away. Invest in yourself. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* It's OK to have some fun, but don't go overboard. Someone will play you like a fiddle if you are too gullible or willing to do too much for too little. Avoid indulgent situations, people and purchases. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

3				6				2
		5	9		1	4		
	7						8	
	8						9	
9				5				6
	3						5	
	1						7	
		8	6		7	1		
2				1				4

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 8/16

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

4	6	1	7	3	5	9	2	8
5	3	9	1	8	2	6	7	4
8	2	7	4	6	9	1	5	3
2	4	6	3	5	7	8	1	9
7	5	3	9	1	8	4	6	2
1	9	8	2	4	6	5	3	7
9	7	5	6	2	4	3	8	1
3	8	2	5	9	1	7	4	6
6	1	4	8	7	3	2	9	5

Difficulty Level ★★★ 8/9

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EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Know what you want before you start a conversation with someone likely to be aggressive until you give in or settle for less. Don't feel you have to align yourself with an unpredictable person or situation. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Leave nothing to chance or unfinished. Once you feel confident that you have everything updated, you will be able to relax and have fun with the people you love most. Personal gains are within reach. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Channel your energy into something constructive. Don't give in to friends who want you to take part in indulgent behavior. Protect against financial, emotional or personal loss. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are adaptable, spontaneous and generous. You are friendly and accommodating.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

TASTY TASTY TARTS **Solution: 12 letters**

E	D	R	R	E	T	T	U	B	V	S	T	R	Y	Y
L	N	U	A	Y	R	T	S	A	P	F	A	W	R	E
B	O	O	E	S	O	A	N	K	I	W	I	O	R	N
M	M	L	P	C	P	I	G	L	B	E	V	G	E	O
U	L	F	I	R	L	B	L	U	I	A	T	N	H	H
R	A	R	S	L	A	I	E	F	S	M	S	A	C	E
C	P	Y	A	T	N	C	R	R	Ⓟ	Ⓘ	Ⓔ	M	T	I
A	L	G	C	G	R	E	S	M	R	G	Z	R	L	R
R	U	N	L	U	S	U	A	A	I	Y	E	R	A	B
A	M	A	S	H	S	P	D	N	M	S	R	J	S	R
M	Z	T	C	I	L	T	G	E	S	S	U	O	M	O
E	N	A	C	E	P	E	A	E	L	I	L	I	R	W
L	E	M	O	N	R	E	D	R	C	L	L	I	I	N
P	T	U	N	L	A	W	E	Y	D	K	I	S	C	I
B	A	K	E	G	G	S	U	R	T	I	C	F	H	E

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Almond, Apricot, Bake, Brie, Brownie, Butter, Caramel, Cherry, Citrus, Crumble, Crust, Custard, Dessert, Eggs, Filled, Filling, Flour, Fresh, Ginger, Glaze, Honey, Juicy, Kiwi, Lemon, Lime, Mango, Maple, Mascarpone, Milk, Mousse, Pastry, Peach, Pear, Pecan, Pie, Plum, Raspberry, Rich, Salt, Savory, Slice, Strudel, Sugar, Sweet, Tangy, Vanilla, Walnut, Zest

Yesterday's Answer: Goods

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand. Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

CFPJ Corporation
(18) Maintenance
& Repair Workers, General
$8.33/per hr.

Interested applicants,
pls call 235-2375
email: cfpjcorp.2014@yahoo.com

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Househelper - Knowledge in cooking Chinese, Japanese, Thai, Cuisine is a must. Experienced in household chores. With valid driver's license.

Submit Applications To:
AYD Services Inc.
AYD Compound, Beach Road,
San Antonio Village, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.# 235-7011

House for Rent or Long Term Lease

Location: Tottotville
3 bedrooms/1 bathroom
Semi furnished

For more information, please call
Pam Seman at 483-0678
or 483-9080.

WAREHOUSE for RENT

REM LOWERBASE
Warehouse #1 Size: 5,000sq/ft with built-in office & bathroom
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 234-0609 EXT. 158, 285-1317

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) SALES PERSON - $8.57 to 8.88 per hour plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Sell merchandise, such as furniture, motor vehicles and parts, appliances, or apparel to consumers. Greet customers and ascertain what each customer wants or needs. Recommend, select, and help locate or obtain merchandise based on customer needs and desires. Compute sales prices, total purchases, and receive and process cash or credit payment. Prepare merchandise for purchase or rental. Answer questions regarding the store and its merchandise.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate or its equivalence;
- At least 12 months experience
- Must be knowledgeable in operating PC, adding machine, electric typewriter

All interested applicants can submit resume at richel@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –Marianaslabor.net.

APEX BUILDERS, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

PACIFIC SUNRISE CORPORATION

1 CHEF COOK
2 COOK
1 SUPERVISOR
3 WAITRESS

All interested us citizens can email their resume at psc237700@gmail.com or call 2337000 for more information located at Coral Avenue Garapan Pacific Sunrise building with P.O. BOX 504972 SAIPAN MP 96950

WHATZIT Solution:
Divide and rule

DRIVE SOBER OR GET PULLED OVER

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) Sewing Machine Operator – High School Diploma and atleast 3 months work experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Submit Applications To:
Pam Pacific Enterprises corp. dba
Pena House Boutique and Salon
Ground Floor, Sablan Building, Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)235-7270

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(3) Beautician – One year experience as Beautician. Knowledgeable in giving Hair Cut, Hair Colors, Hair High-lights.

Submit Applications To:
Saipan Apparel Printing LLC.
Ground Floor, Afetna Building, Beach Road, San Antonio Village,
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.# 670-235-1680

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CURRY ENTERPRISES, LLC
1 CHEF AND HEAD COOK
starting salary $13.87 to $19.00

Interested applicants,
pls call 233-3372
email: mabang1521@gmail.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(30) **CARPENTER/LABOR** $9.76 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Help carpenters by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Clean work areas, machines, or equipment, to maintain a clean and safe job site. Fasten timbers or lumber with glue, screws, pegs, or nails and install hardware. Perform tie spacing layout and measure, mark, drill or cut. Select tools, equipment, or materials from storage and transport items to work site. Drill holes in timbers or lumber.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(4) **CMI. ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN** 14.18 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Apply theory and principles of civil engineering in planning, designing, and overseeing construction and maintenance of structures and facilities under the direction of engineering staff or physical scientists. Calculate dimensions, square footage, profile and component specifications, and material quantities using calculator or computer. Read and review project blueprints and structural specifications to determine dimensions of structure or system and material requirements. Draft detailed dimensional drawings and design layouts for projects and to ensure conformance to specifications. Confer with supervisor to determine project details such as plan preparation, acceptance testing, and evaluation of field conditions. Analyze proposed site factors and design maps, graphs, tracings, and diagrams to illustrate findings.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- Associate Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in practical application of Engineering Science and Technology

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) **Environmental Health and Safety Manager** $10. 65 to 10.65 per hour, plus 1.5 OT, Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Review, evaluate, and analyze work environments and design programs and procedures to control, eliminate, and prevent disease or injury caused by chemical, physical, and biological agents or ergonomic factors. May conduct inspections and enforce adherence to laws and regulations governing the health and safety of individuals. May be employed in the public or private sector. Includes environmental protection officers. Order suspension of activities that pose threats to workers' health or safety. Investigate accidents to identify causes or to determine how such accidents might be prevented in the future. Recommend measures to help protect workers from potentially hazardous work methods, processes, or materials. Inspect or evaluate workplace environments, equipment, or practices to ensure compliance with safety standards and government regulations. Develop or maintain hygiene programs, such as noise surveys, continuous atmosphere monitoring, ventilation surveys, or asbestos management plans.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- Bachelor's Degree;
- At least 24 months experience in safety standards;
- Must possess various safety training certificates.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(04) **Interior Designer** - $8.48 to 9.32 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Plan, design, and furnish interiors of residential, commercial, or industrial buildings. Formulate design which is practical, aesthetic, and conducive to intended purposes, such as raising productivity, selling merchandise, or improving life style. May specialize in a particular field, style, or phase of interior design. Design plans to be safe and to be compliant with the American Disabilities Act (ADA). Coordinate with other professionals, such as contractors, architects, engineers, and lumbers, to ensure job success. Inspect construction work on site to ensure its adherence to the design plans. Use computer-aided drafting (CAD) and related software to produce construction documents. Advise client on interior design factors such as space planning, layout and use of furnishings or equipment, and color coordination.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
Bachelor's Degree;
At least 24 months experience;
Must have knowledge of design techniques, tools, and principles involved in the production of precision technical plans, blueprints, drawings, and models

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(2) **MATERIAL CONTROL MANAGER** $9.02 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Weigh, measure, and check materials, supplies, and equipment for the purpose of keeping relevant records. Duties are primarily clerical by nature. Manage, collect and keep record of samples of products or materials. Document quantity, quality, type, weight, test result data, and value of materials or products to maintain shipping, receiving, and production records and files. Weigh or measure materials, equipment, or products to maintain relevant records, using volume meters, scales, rules, or calipers. Collect or prepare measurement, weight, or identification labels and attach them to products. Examine products or materials, parts, subassemblies, and packaging for damage, defects, or shortages, using specification sheets, gauges, and standards charts. Signal or instruct other workers to weigh, move, or check products

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge of raw materials, production processes, quality control, costs, and other techniques for maximizing the effective manufacture and distribution of goods.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(06) **Mechanics** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Diagnose, adjust, repair, or overhaul automotive vehicles. Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools and testers.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(05) SERVICE TECHNICIAN- $10.58 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40hrs.a week, Monday to Friday 7:30am to 4:30pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Help plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, or pipelayers by performing duties requiring less skill. Duties include using, supplying or holding materials or tools, and cleaning work area and equipment. Measure, cut, thread and assemble new pipe, placing the assembled pipe in hangers or other supports. Cut or drill holes in walls or floors to accommodate the passage of pipes. Perform rough-ins, repair and replace fixtures and water heaters, and locate, repair, or remove leaking or broken pipes. Assist pipe fitters in the layout, assembly, and installation of piping for air, ammonia, gas, and water systems. Cut pipe and lift up to fitters. Fit or assist in fitting valves, couplings, or assemblies to tanks, pumps, or systems, using hand tools. Requisition tools and equipment, select type and size of the pipe, and collect and transport materials and equipment to work site. Mount brackets and hangers on walls and ceilings to hold pipes, and set sleeves or inserts to provide support for pipes. Excavate and grade ditches, and lay and join pipe for water and sewer service. Disassemble and remove the damaged or worn pipe.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(02) **STEEL WORKERS** $14.53 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Raise, place, and unite iron or steel girders, columns, and other structural members to form completed structures or structural frameworks. May erect metal storage tanks and assemble prefabricated metal buildings. Read specifications or blueprints to determine the locations, quantities, or sizes of materials required. Connect columns, beams, and girders with bolts, following blueprints and instructions from supervisors. Bolt aligned structural steel members in position for permanent riveting, bolting, or welding into place. Fasten structural steel members to hoist cables, using chains, cables, or rope. Hoist steel beams, girders, or columns into place, using cranes or signaling hoisting equipment operators to lift and position structural steel members.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 12 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(04) **Warehouse worker** - $7.93 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time, 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Receive, store, and issue materials, equipment, and other items from stockroom, warehouse, or storage yard. Keep records and compile stock reports. Pack and unpack items to be stocked on shelves in stockrooms, warehouses, or storage yards. Store items in an orderly and accessible manner in warehouses, tool rooms, supply rooms, or other areas. Examine and inspect stock items for wear or defects, reporting any damage to supervisors. Receive and count stock items, and record data manually or using a computer. Mark stock items using identification tags, stamps, electric marking tools, or other labeling equipment.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
High School Graduate;
At least 12 months experience;
Must have knowledge in the inventory of construction materials and tools.

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(15) **Auto Technician** $7.98 per hour, plus 1.5 OT
Full time 40 hrs. a week, Monday to Friday 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Repair automobiles, trucks, buses, and other vehicles. Master mechanics repair virtually any part on the vehicle or specialize in the transmission system. Test drive vehicles and test components and systems, using equipment such as infrared engine analyzers, compression gauges, and computerized diagnostic devices. Test and adjust repaired systems to meet manufacturers' performance specifications. Repair, reline, replace, and adjust brakes. Review work orders and discuss work with supervisors. Confer with customers to obtain descriptions of vehicle problems and to discuss work to be performed and future repair requirements.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School Graduate;
- At least 24 months experience
- Knowledge in using hand and power tools

All interested applicants can submit resume at anniep@gppcinc.com or at our office address P.O. Box 504357 CK, Tun Kioshi Kileleman Road, As Perdido or contact us @ (670)234-7900 ext. 803 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mondays to Fridays. For more information, the position can be obtained from the company's Job Vacancy Announcement on the CNMI, Labor web site –marianaslabor.net.

GPPC, INC. IS AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

YCO Corporation is looking for the following position:

Hardware Sales Associate
Qualification Requirements: Knowledge of business and management involve customer service, production methods, Knowledge in computer system. e.g data base, word, excel, rock solid, POS and other computer software. Familiar Hardware products. Good in oral comprehension, sales and marketing. 12 months work related experience with High School diploma. Salary: $8.57/hr. This job opportunity is a temporary full time position. Deductions all required by CNMI and Federal Law. From Mon-Sat. 36 hr/week 6 hr/day.

Office Supervisor
Qualification Requirements: Knowledge in Computer systems and Electronics such as peach tree, rock solid, microsoft excel, word, access, power point, data base and computer system. Knowledge of business management involve in strategic planning, human resources, leadership technique, production method. Good in customer and personal service. Ability in oral comprehension & expression and written comprehension. With Employment Certificate as office supervisor. Employment certificate will be applied equally to both U.S. Workers and CW-1 workers. At least 24 months work related experience with Associate Degree. Salary $12.41/hr. This job opportunity is a temporary full time position. Deduction all required by CNMI and Federal Law. From Mon-Fri. 36hr/week/7 hr /day.

Dept Hardware Sale Supervisor
Qualification Requirements: Good in customer service, marketing expertise, good in computer e.g data base, rock solid system, excel, word, and other computer program, Familiar in hardware product, knowledge of business and management principle, leadership, production methods, Service oriented. Physically fit, Can able to drive. Knowledge in inventory system. Salary: $8.55-9.20/hr. This job opportunity is a temporary full time position. Deduction: All required by CNMI and Federal Law. Frm: Mon-Sun 7 hrs a day(flexible time and day). 36 hrs /week.

Electrician
Qualification Requirements: At least 24 months work related experience with Associate Degree. Knowledge in all aspect of electrical .eg. installation, plan, lay out, repair, trouble shooting, inspect electrical or electronics system for defects. Good in computer system, data base, Microsoft excel, word, peach tree system, drafting. Knowledge in sales and marketing of electrical product. Good in customer service, with electrical license and diploma and with driver license. Salary: 9:60 hr. This job opportunity is a temporary full time position. Deduction: All required by CNMI and Federal Law. From: Mon-Sat 6 hrs. / day, 36 hrs. /week.

Applicant may submit application to 2nd flr Yumul bldg. Mnsgr Guerrero Rd Chalan Kiya Saipan MP 96950 or email to ycocorporationlabor@yahoo.com. From Monday to Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm. Tel (670)233-3112/3.

YCO Corporation is looking for the following position:

Maintenance and Repair Workers, General
Knowledge in equipment maintenance, repairing, troubleshooting, equipment selection or determining the kind of tools and equipment needed to do a job. Physically fit, with valid drivers license. Must be at least 24 months work related experience with high school diploma. Salary: $8.11 to 9.00/hr. Monday to Friday, 36hr/week, 7 hrs/day. This position is temporary, full time position. There is 1 job opening intent to fill.

Accounting Associate
Atleast 24 months work related experience with High School Diploma, Proficient in microsoft software programs and accounting software such as quick book and peachtree. Knowledge on US generally accepted accounting principles. Comply with Federal State and company policies procedures and Regulations. Compile statistical, financial, accounting or auditing reports and tables pertaining to such cash receipts, expenditures, accounts payables procedures. Proficient in the English language (verbal, written and reading). Active listening, critical thinking. With Certificate of employment. The required employment certificate will be applied equally to both U.S. workers and CW workers. Salary: $9.87/hr. 36 hrs./week, 7 hrs./day. From Monday to Friday. This position is temporary, full time position. There is 1 job opportunity intent to fill with this position.

Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Driver
Required commercial driver license, physically fit with truck driver certificate. Knowledge in record operational or production data, record service or repair activities. Atleast 12 months work related experience with High School Diploma. Salary: $8.00/hr. /hr.36 hrs./week,6 hrs./day Monday to Saturday This position is temporary, full time position. There is 1 job opportunity intent to fill with this position.

Auto Mechanics/Technician
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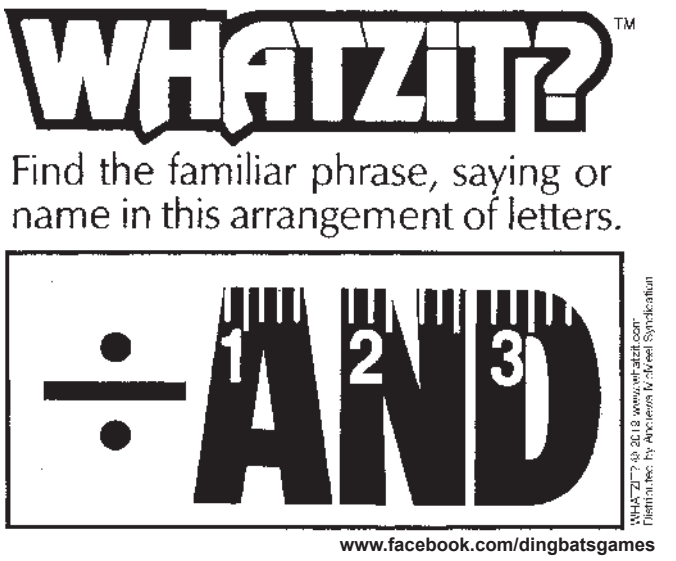

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Pujols sets career hit mark for foreign-born players

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Los Angeles Angels slugger Albert Pujols doesn't want to talk about his growing list of accomplishments until his career comes to an end.

That leaves the task to the rest of baseball, and they are running out of ways to describe Pujols' illustrious time in the game.

Pujols had two hits and three RBIs Wednesday and set the major league record for career hits by a foreign-born player, leading the Angels to a 7-4 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates.

"I mean, what more can we say? He's one of the greatest players to ever play the game, one of the greatest hitters to ever play the game," Angels manager Brad Ausmus said. "And he's going to pass some other names I'm sure that are very well known and have plaques hanging in Cooperstown.

Pujols had an RBI single in the 4th inning. His 3,167th hit moved him past fellow Dominican Republic native Adrian Beltre (3,166) and into sole possession of 15th place for career hits.

"He just keeps doing what he does," said Dillon Peters (3-1), who allowed two runs in six innings while striking out six after an erratic start. "Everybody here looks up to him, and it's just awesome to watch him chase his dream and chase all the milestones he's already overcome. And there's going to be more to come."

AP

Los Angeles Angels' Albert Pujols, center, is greeted in the dugout after scoring on a double by David Fletcher during the fourth inning of the tema's baseball game against the Pittsburgh Pirates on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2019, in Anaheim, Calif.

Phillies 11, Cubs 1

In Philadelphia, J.T. Realmuto hit a grand slam, Bryce Harper went deep twice and the Phillies beat the Chicago Cubs 11-1 in Charlie Manuel's first game as hitting coach, ruining Cole Hamels' return home.

Manuel was back in red pinstripes in his old dugout exactly six years to the day the franchise icon managed his last game for the Phillies. He heard "Charlie! Charlie! Charlie!" chants after Realmuto connected to make it 10-0 in the third.

Hamels, the 2008 NLCS and World Series MVP with Manuel's Phillies, was roughed up in his first game in Philadelphia since he was traded to Texas in July 2015. Hamels (6-4) gave up eight runs and nine hits in two-plus innings.

Nationals 17, Reds 7

In Washington, Anthony Rendon, Kurt Suzuki and Adam Eaton hit homers in a 10-run fifth that included an RBI single from Stephen Strasburg (15-5), and the Nationals tacked on another six runs in the next inning to complete a three-game series sweep.

This marked the first time since the Nationals moved from Montreal in 2005 that every member of the team's lineup scored in a single inning. The NL wild-card leaders broke loose against Trevor Bauer (1-1) for their biggest inning of the season; they scored 11 in an inning at Colorado in 2017.

Dodgers 9, Marlins 1

In Miami, Clayton Kershaw struck out the first seven batters he faced and matched a season high with 10 strikeouts in seven shutout innings as Los Angeles beat the Marlins.

Kershaw (12-2) allowed two hits and retired the first 14 Miami batters before Harold Ramirez's two-out single to right in the fifth. The three-time Cy Young Award winner left after 90 pitches.

Rookie Edwin Rios hit his first two major league homers. Justin Turner went 3 for 5 with a home run and Corey Seager homered and had three RBIs for the Dodgers.

Yankees 6, Orioles 5

In New York, Gary Sanchez hit a three-run homer and the Yankees beat Baltimore for the 16th straight time this season.

The Yankees went 17-2 against the O's, their most wins versus any opponent in a season since going 17-5 over the Kansas City Athletics in 1959.

Sanchez's 10th homer against the Orioles this year capped a four-run burst in the first inning.

Red Sox 5, Indians 1

In Cleveland, Rafael Devers homered and singled, extending his hit streak to eight straight at-bats, and Xander Bogaerts connected twice to lead Boston over the Indians.

Devers went 6 for 6 with four doubles Tuesday night. A day later, he singled in the first inning and hit a solo home run in the third before being retired on a comebacker in the fifth.

Braves 6, Mets 4

In Atlanta, Tyler Flowers drove in a tiebreaking run with an infield hit, and the Braves scored five runs off Seth Lugo in the seventh and survived a ninth-inning scare in a win over New York.

The Mets have lost three straight, including the first two of the three-game series with Atlanta, after winning 15 of 16 to move up in the NL wild-card chase.

J.D. Davis gave New York a 2-1 lead with a two-run single in the seventh, when Steven Matz had his second bloop single to right field.

Cardinals 6, Royals 0

In Kansas City, Cardinals rookie Dakota Hudson tossed six innings of five-hit ball, Royals counterpart Brad Keller allowed a no-hit bid to crumble in spectacular fashion, and St. Louis went on to beat the Royals for a two-game sweep.

Hudson (11-6) allowed runners to reach every inning but the third, but the 24-year-old right-hander kept getting timely double-plays, groundballs and fly outs. Hudson struck out five and walked two as the Cardinals won for the 13th time in his last 16 starts.

Rockies 7, Diamondbacks 6

In Denver, Nolan Arenado hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning to give Colorado the victory.

After Trevor Story was hit by a pitch, Arenado launched a fastball from Archie Bradley (3-5) over the fence in left. It was Arenado's third career walk-off homer and first since June 18, 2017, against San Francisco.

Arenado was doused with Powerade soon after crossing home plate and mobbed by teammates. Colorado ended a string of five straight losses to Arizona.

White Sox 13, Astros 9

In Chicago, James McCann hit a tiebreaking grand slam in the eighth inning and the White Sox outlasted Houston to win the season series from the runaway AL West leaders.

Rookie Eloy Jiménez hit his 20th homer and doubled, and Tim Anderson doubled twice among four hits for the White Sox. Following a doubleheader split on Tuesday, Chicago (54-65) took two of three games from the Astros in a little over 24 hours and finished 4-3 against them this year. Houston has lost three of four following an eight-game winning streak.

Athletics 9, Giants 5

In San Francisco, Matt Chapman homered twice, including a pivotal drive in the ninth inning that followed a late collapse by Oakland's bullpen, and the Athletics held on to beat the Giants.

Homer Bailey (10-8) pitched seven scoreless innings and singled twice. Robbie Grossman also went deep and made a sliding catch in left, and Matt Olson added a two-run double to help the A's earn a split of the two-game series between Bay Area rivals.

Mike Yastrzemski homered for San Francisco, which had won three straight.

Brewers 6, Twins 5

In Milwaukee, rookie Trent Grisham hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning, and the Brewers rallied to beat Minnesota.

The Brewers trailed 5-3 when Grisham, batting leadoff in his 11th game in the majors, blasted a 2-2 fastball from Sergio Romo (2-1) into the right-field stands. Ryan Braun reached on a throwing error by shortstop Jorge Polanco and Hernán Pérez singled before Grisham went deep.

Junior Guerra (6-3) worked two scoreless innings for Milwaukee.

Mitch Garver, Eddie Rosario and Miguel Sanó each hit solo homers for the Twins, who have a major league-leading 233 home runs this season.

Padres 7, Rays 2

In San Diego, Cal Quantrill contributed with his arm and bat as the Padres beat Tampa Bay for the first time in over nine years.

San Diego had lost nine in a row to the Rays overall since June 23, 2010, in an interleague matchup that hasn't occurred too often. The Padres also posted their first home win over Tampa Bay — they were 0-3 against the Rays in 2004 when Petco Park opened, and had dropped the first two games of this series.

Eric Hosmer homered to help San Diego stop a three-game losing streak. Tampa Bay had won five in row, along with nine straight on the road.

Quantrill (6-3) gave up a two-run homer to Tommy Pham in the first inning, but little else before leaving with one out in the sixth. He allowed three hits and walked one, striking out six.

Tigers 3, Mariners 2

In Detroit, Victor Reyes hit a two-run single in the second inning and Detroit held on to beat the Mariners.

Harold Castro had three hits for Detroit while catcher Jake Rogers threw out two baserunners to end innings.

The Tigers improved to 4-6 with one game left in an 11-game homestand. Seattle has lost nine of 11.

Edwin Jackson (3-5) allowed two runs on four hits and a walk in five innings. He struck out four and allowed two homers while winning his second straight start.

Rangers 7, Blue Jays 3

In Toronto, Kolby Allard pitched 5 2/3 innings to win for the first time with Texas, Elvis Andrus had four hits and two RBIs and the Rangers beat Toronto to avoid a three-game sweep.

Nomar Mazara and Danny Santana hit solo home runs as the Rangers wrapped up a three-city trip by scoring more than five runs for the first time in that stretch of road games. The Rangers went 3-6 against Cleveland, Milwaukee, and Toronto, winning once against each opponent.

Texas came in with two hits in its previous 40 at-bats with runners in scoring position, then went 4 for 12 in such situations Wednesday.

Talks on equal pay end without resolution

NEW YORK (AP)—Players for the World Cup champion women's national team say mediation talks with the U.S. Soccer Federation over equal pay are over.

Molly Levinson, who represents the players in matters concerning the dispute, said in a statement Wednesday that the players look forward to a jury trial.

"We entered this week's mediation with representatives of USSF full of hope," Levinson said. "Today we must conclude these meetings sorely disappointed in the federation's determination to perpetuate fundamentally discriminatory workplace conditions and behavior."

U.S. Soccer said it had hoped to reach a resolution, but accused the counsel for the players of "an aggressive and ultimately unproductive approach."

"We value our players, and have continually shown that, by providing them with compensation and support that exceeds any other women's team in the world," the federation's statement said.

The players sued U.S. Soccer in March, charging institutionalized gender discrimination that includes inequitable compensation when compared with their counterparts on the men's national team. The federation countered that pay and benefits for members of the men's and women's teams, bargained by separate unions, can't be compared and said there was no basis for allegations of illegal conduct.

The two sides agreed to mediate the matter once the Women's World Cup in France was over. The United States beat the Netherlands to win the title last month, and afterward fans in the crowd chanted "Equal Pay!"

AP

Spain's Lucia Garcia, left, challenges for the ball with United States'Megan Rapinoe during the Women's World Cup Round of 16 soccer match at the Stade Auguste-Delaune in Reims, France, Monday, June 24, 2019.

Federation President Carlos Cordeiro wrote U.S. Soccer members in late July claiming the women's team was paid more overall than the men's team between 2010 and 2018.

The letter stated that the federation paid out $34.1 million in salary and game bonuses to the women between 2010 and 2018 as opposed to $26.4 million paid to the men. The total did not include the value of benefits received only by the women, like health care, Cordeiro wrote.

The players have disputed the figures, claiming they are misleading.

"It is clear that USSF, including its Board of Directors and President Carlos Cordeiro, fully intend to continue to compensate women players less than men. They will not succeed," Levinson said Wednesday. "We want all of our fans, sponsors, peers around the world, and women everywhere to know we are undaunted and will eagerly look forward to a jury trial."

U.S. Soccer in turn took a swipe at the Levinson.

"Despite inflammatory statements from their spokesperson, which are intended to paint our actions inaccurately and unfairly, we are undaunted in our efforts to continue discussions in good faith," the statement said.

MLS coach calls idea 'ridiculous'

Paying men and women equally for the same job is a worthwhile idea; it just won't work in international soccer.

That's the opinion of former Dutch national team captain Frank de Boer, who's now head coach of Major League Soccer champion Atlanta United.

De Boer was asked about the issue in light of the Royal Dutch Football Association's recent commitment to equal pay for its men's and women's national teams by 2023.

"I think for me, it's ridiculous," De Boer said. "It's the same like tennis. If there are watching, for the World Cup final, 500 million people or something like that, and 100 million for a women's final, that's a difference. So it's not the same."

De Boer said he's in favor of equal pay in general, but in sports such as soccer and tennis, it's not feasible.

"If it's just as popular as the men, they will get it, because the income and the advertising will go into that. But it's not like that, so why do they have to earn the same?" he said. "I think it's ridiculous. I don't understand that."

Woods needs good week, good health to make it to East Lake

MEDINAH, Ill. (AP)—The course is familiar to Tiger Woods. The circumstances are not.

Medinah is where Woods buried that 8-foot par putt on the 17th hole in 1999 to win the PGA Championship for the first time by holding off teenage Sergio Garcia. He returned to Medinah in 2006 and won the PGA Championship again, this time making history as the only player to win multiple majors in consecutive years.

"I've had some good memories," Woods said.

What he needs now is good health and a good week at the BMW Championship. Otherwise, one of his best memories from last year will remain just that.

Woods withdrew last week after one round of the FedEx Cup playoffs opener, citing a mild strain of the oblique. That dropped him from No. 28 to No. 38 in the FedEx Cup because points are quadruple during the postseason.

The PGA Tour projects that he needs to finish at least 11th—he has only one top 10 since winning the Masters—to have any chance of being among the top 30 players who advance to the Tour Championship for the FedEx Cup finale and a shot at the $15 million bonus.

Woods is the defending champion at East Lake, capping off his comeback from four back surgeries with a vintage performance at the Tour Championship.

"I'm trying to win this tournament just like anybody else in this field, and trying to get to East Lake and trying to get to a place where a lot of things changed for me last year," Woods said after his pro-am. "And hopefully, I can make that happen."

That it even might happen is a mild surprise.

Woods says he didn't feel right last week at Liberty National, and it showed in a pro-am round when he didn't hit full shots on the back nine, only chipping and putting. When he withdrew after a 75 in the first round with the oblique injury, it seemed as though that might be the end of his season.

But he showed up Tuesday at Medinah, only to start this week in the same way as last week.

"Took the back nine off, chipped and putted quite a bit," Woods said. He then added that his body "definitely doesn't feel like it did on Friday, that's for sure."

"It was nice to take those days off," he said, referring to the three-day weekend from withdrawing. "I had to just let it calm down and get a bunch of treatment on it, and it feels so much better."

Woods attributed the injury to slight changes in his swing to alleviate pressure off a fused lower back.

"As I've said before, the forces have got to go somewhere, and unfortunately when I make any kind of tweaks and changes to my swing, it's like a new body part is aching," he said. "Unfortunately, I can't play around the back like I used to. And unfortunately, things flare up."

So many others are in better position, minus the history at Medinah.

Brooks Koepka remains atop the FedEx Cup standings, even with another pedestrian week in the playoffs. Koepka tied for 30th at Liberty National. The world's No. 1 player has only two top 10s in 16 appearances in these postseason events.

He described it as frustrating, though nothing four major championships won't soothe.

"I've been so burned out," Koepka said. "I've done a better job of being in shape and focusing a little bit more, focusing a little bit harder and trying to gear the schedule for around this. The way the schedule worked out this year, the last four months, just really haven't had too many weeks off."

Most of the focus is on the 30 players who advance to East Lake. There is no cut in the 69-man field, which should help (Kevin Na withdrew because his wife is expecting to give birth). Andrew Putnam is holding down the 30th spot by four points over Ryan Palmer, but anyone can advance. Patrick Reed was 50th starting the playoffs, and his victory at Liberty National moved him to No. 2.

Among those with plenty of work to do are Jordan Spieth, Phil Mickelson and Ian Poulter, who has never been to the Tour Championship since the FedEx Cup playoffs began in 2007. He still recalls—vividly—the time 10 years ago when he finished two-hundredths of a point behind 30th place.

"I was sitting on the plane, tied 30ths, delighted to go to East Lake, and then being told the plane is going somewhere else," Poulter said. "So great, yeah, I remember it. It's only been 10 years."

Poulter has the strongest memories of Medinah this side of Woods from having led Europe to the greatest Ryder Cup comeback by a visiting team in 2012. Poulter birdied the last five holes to win a fourballs match Saturday evening that salvaged European hopes, and he went 4-0 for the week.

So does Rory McIlroy, at No. 3 in the FedEx Cup. Not only did he meet his wife during the Ryder Cup at Medinah, he forgot what time zone he was in and needed a police escort to the course to avoid missing his tee time.

That squad car was later put up for auction. Poulter bought it for $7,000.

Garoppolo has very bad practice day for 49ers

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Jimmy Garoppolo had a practice to forget in his final session before facing an opposing defense for the first time since suffering a season-ending knee injury in September.

Garoppolo threw interceptions on five straight pass attempts at practice for the San Francisco 49ers on Wednesday, by far his worst session since his return from the torn ACL that cut short his 2018 season after three games.

"I was the defensive coach today so I was pumped," coach Kyle Shanahan said. "The defense did great today. Obviously, he struggled. You hope to never have a day like that. But I don't think it's never not happened to anyone. When you do that, you hope you can practice long enough and you have a chance to play out of it."

Garoppolo's day went off the rails when safety Jaquiski Tartt intercepted a pass that was tipped by linebacker Kwon Alexander. Free safety Tarvarius Moore added two more interceptions, cornerback Richard Sherman jumped in front of tight end Ross Dwelley for one of his own and cornerback Ahkello Witherspoon had one in the end zone on an attempt to Dante Pettis.

Garoppolo settled down a bit after that and did lead a two-minute drill into the red zone before Tartt nearly came up with another interception on the final play, only to have it go through his hands to Jordan Matthews for a completion short of the goal line.

Shanahan said he hopes a practice like this will be a learning experience for Garoppolo on how to deal with frustration when things don't go the right way in games.

AP

In this Tuesday, June 10, 2019 file photo, San Francisco 49ers quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo throws a pass during a drill at the team's NFL football training facility in Santa Clara, Calif. Jimmy Garoppolo had a practice to forget in his final session before facing an opposing defense for the first time since suffering a season-ending knee injury last September.

"You want so badly to make it up the next play but the next play you still have to make the right decision and go with what the defense gives you," Shanahan said. "Sometimes it's hard to make the right decisions when you're fired up and competitive. Usually when you make a bad play, it makes your mind go a little bit sideways. That's why it is sometimes a good situation to put guys in and when that does happen sometimes you try to protect them a little bit in the game. But in practice it's the exact opposite. When there's an issue, you kind of poke at it a little bit more and see how guys react."

Garoppolo will get a chance to rebound when the 49ers hold joint practices with the Denver Broncos on Friday and Saturday in preparation for an exhibition game. This will be Garoppolo's first time facing an opposing defense since injuring his knee in Kansas City last Sept. 23. He will also get a chance to play in the game on Monday night.

The one bright spot in Garoppolo's poor performance was that it showed that maybe the 49ers will have a more opportunistic defense this season after setting NFL records for futility with just two interceptions and seven takeaways all last season.

San Francisco goes into the joint practices a bit shorthanded, especially on the defensive line where starting defensive ends Dee Ford and Nick Bosa remain sidelined. Ford (knee tendinitis) could return to practice next week for the first time since July 30.

Joint practices invaluable

In South Carolina, Coach Ron Rivera believes joint practices have become an invaluable part of today's NFL.

The Panthers wrapped up two days of practices at Wofford College with the Buffalo Bills that he thinks will go a long way toward helping both teams prepare for the regular season. Unlike preseason games, players weren't allowed to tackle which Rivera believes can be dually beneficial in getting plays down pat while at the same time not risking major injuries.

"I'm not sure if playing the games is as important as it used to be, but things like this are invaluable," Rivera said Wednesday.

This is the third time in five seasons the Panthers have practiced with another team.

"If you can get two teams that come in focused on working and developing you can help each other out a lot," Rivera said.

Rivera didn't play his starters in the preseason opener against Chicago, but said they will get some work in in Friday night's game against the Bills. Quarterback Cam Newton, who is coming off arthroscopic shoulder surgery in the offseason, is expected to play.

Bosa had a severe ankle injury last week and his status for the season opener remains in doubt. Bosa worked out on the side Wednesday in an encouraging sign that he is making progress.

Defensive coordinator Robert Saleh said making this missed time even more crucial is the fact that the team is implementing new techniques on the defensive line under coach Kris Kocurek.

"That stuff, to me, is important," Saleh said. "Do I think it will hinder us from still being able to get after the passer? No, I don't think it will be too bad. I feel like there's going to be an adjustment. ... We're going to have a high celling once those guys get back of trying to master those techniques and master the relationship they have with one another so they can operate at a very high level."

Halep rallies to avoid upset in Ohio

MASON, Ohio (AP)—Simona Halep wasn't sure how her left foot would feel. After dropping her first set but feeling no pain, she dug in and advanced at the Western & Southern Open.

The fourth-seeded Halep had no problems with her left Achilles as she rallied to beat Ekaterina Alexandrova 3-6, 7-5, 6-4 on Wednesday, one week after she dropped out of the Rogers Cup quarterfinals because of the injury. She was tentative when she took the court.

"You are a bit scared," Halep said. "But I think I played much better in the end."

The Wimbledon champion fought off two break points in the third set and then broke Alexandrova to serve for the match. It wasn't easy , but at least it was pain-free.

"I felt slowly that I'm feeling good and I have no pain," Halep said. "I got the confidence game by game, even if she was leading me."

Top-seeded Ashleigh Barty beat Maria Sharapova 6-4, 6-1. Sharapova has had a rough time since retiring in the first round at Wimbledon with a forearm injury, losing in the opening round at Toronto after leading by a set.

Sharapova reported no physical problems, but she felt rusty because of the lack of matches due to the injury—something she can fix with practice.

"I have sat in this chair a few times where I haven't finished the match or I feel like I have a long road ahead of me in terms of recovery with the body, so, yeah, that's a positive," she said. "But there's definitely the repetition, just the feeling of being in a match. It's very different."

Barty, too, was looking to recover from an upset, losing her first match at Toronto last week, and she was satisfied with her return to the court.

"I mean, it was certainly no panic sessions after last week," she said.

Also, No. 2 seed Naomi Osaka beat Aliaksandra Sasnovich 7-6 (3), 2-6, 6-2 in a much closer rematch of their U.S. Open match last year. Osaka beat the Belarusian 6-0, 6-0 on her way to the Open title last year. Sasnovich got treatment on her left knee after falling behind 3-0 in the final set.

Osaka laughed after some of her mistakes early in the match and struggled to get momentum in her easy-going frame of mind. She bore down and closed it out.

"Some of them I was laughing at my errors because it was so ridiculous, and then other times I was laughing because, like, I was in a good mood," she said.

Eighth-seeded Sloane Stephens rallied for a 2-6, 6-4, 6-3 win over Yulia Putintseva in an evening match.

There were more upsets in the men's bracket, leaving four qualifiers in the round of 16 at an ATP Masters 1000 event for the third time in the history of the series that began in 1990. It also happened at Monte Carlo in 2001 and Hamburg in 2005.

Second-seeded Rafael Nadal withdrew before the start of the tournament because of fatigue after winning the Rogers Cup in Montreal on Sunday.

The most notable qualifier upset came from Yoshihito Nishioka, who knocked off sixth-seeded Kei Nishikori 7-6 (2), 6-4 in a matchup of Japan's top players after going sleepless the previous night.

"I was so excited to play with him because he's the hero of Japanese tennis, most of the Asian tennis," Nishioka said. "So I was very excited to play. I couldn't sleep yesterday, you know."

The two had practiced together but never faced each other in a tournament.

"Good to see he's getting stronger, growing up," Nishikori said.

Qualifiers Miomir Kecmanovic and Andrey Rublev also advanced, joining qualifier Pablo Carreno Busta, who beat John Isner in his second-round match a day earlier. Kecmanovic beat seventh-seeded Alexander Zverev in three sets, and Rublev beat Stan Wawrinka 6-4, 6-4.

Meanwhile, Thanasi Kokkinakis will play at the U.S. Open after being granted a wild card by Tennis Australia.

The 23-year-old Australian was the junior runner-up at Flushing Meadows in 2013.

His professional career has been sidetracked by a series of injuries and he is currently ranked 212th.

The U.S. Tennis Association and Tennis Australia have a reciprocal agreement whereby each federation gets to award wild-card entries to the other's Grand Slam tournament.

As World Cup gets closer, Team USA working on bonding

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)—USA Basketball coach Gregg Popovich doesn't have many rules for his World Cup team. They're more like suggestions, such as the one about limiting phone usage when the team is having breakfast together.

He doesn't mind if guys are talking.

He just wants them talking to one another.

Part of the challenge the U.S. faces in the road to this FIBA World Cup—the tournament opener for the Americans in Shanghai against the Czech Republic is just a little over two weeks away—is taking individuals who know one another and turning them into a real team. It's been a top priority for Popovich since the national team assembled for camp last week, and players say they feel bonds being forged.

"We've got the group text going already," Milwaukee's Khris Middleton said. "Practices, we're constantly talking to each other. The bus rides, the breakfast meetings when there's no phones, just getting to know each other to see what they're all about, see how they are, just get to know them."

So off-court matters are coming together.

The on-court product is still a work in progress.

The World Cup candidates played a team of mostly G League players in practice scrimmages on Wednesday and struggled mightily, losing one of those short games 36-17. The first real dress rehearsal for the Americans in advance of the tournament comes Friday night in Anaheim against Spain.

AP

In this Aug. 5 2019, file photo, Khris Middleton practices his free throw shooting during a training camp for USA Basketball in Los Angeles.

Results in practice shouldn't be read into that much, and for what it's worth Popovich wasn't exactly putting his team on blast afterward.

"Every day's an opportunity to work on execution and put a year's worth of business into a couple of weeks," Popovich said. "Every day's a little bit better."

Brooklyn's Joe Harris said facing adversity in camp will only help the Americans when adversity strikes for real when games count in China.

"This is where you figure it out," Harris said. "You don't want everything to be seamless right now. These are the moments right now in practice where you want it to be difficult, take your licks a little bit, and figure it out. It's making us come together. You can't do it alone and this is helping us become a collective unit."

The team had the weekend off after an intrasquad scrimmage in Las Vegas last Friday, then reassembled at the Los Angeles Lakers' practice facility on Tuesday. If the Americans—the two-time defending World Cup champions—make the gold medal game in Beijing on Sept. 15, that means Tuesday was the start of 34 consecutive days together for a group currently composed of 15 players from 10 different NBA franchises. The roster will be pared to 12 before the World Cup begins.

A lot of players knew each other relatively well before last week, but Popovich wants them to get very close very fast.

"I agree with Pop," Boston's Kemba Walker said. "Cell phones, you don't need them, not all the time. There's definitely time to be on your cell phones but now, right now, in the situation that we're in we have to gain some camaraderie pretty fast."

For his part, Walker thinks that camaraderie is building.

"We just have a bunch of high-character guys, hungry guys, guys who want to be here and guys who want to win," Walker said. "So yes, it's been easy for us to get along."

Blowout

Much of the discussion about Team USA Basketball heading into the FIBA World Cup surrounded the complete lack of star power on the men's . And matters only seem to be getting worse for the U.S. team.

USA Basketball held its camp in Los Angeles on Wednesday, and the practice included a scrimmage against a random group of fringe NBA, G League and overseas players. What was probably supposed to be a confidence-boosting scrimmage aimed at building chemistry ended up being an embarrassing defeat for the national team.

That's right. A team led by guys like Scottie Hopson, Chris Chiozza and Justin Anderson took it to Team USA in the 10-minute scrimmage and won by 19 points (36-17). Seriously, look at this roster. Jeff Van Gundy pulled off some coaching magic.

Team USA had seen its share of stars either declining invites or dropping out of camp, but you'd still think a team of Kemba Walker, Donovan Mitchell and Harrison Barnes would be able to hold off mediocre-at-best competition.

Scrappy performance, indeed.

According to The Athletic's Sam Amick, Team USA lost two games on the day to the select squad.

They play Spain in an exhibition on Friday, so we won't have to wait long to see where Team USA really stands. But early reports are not looking favorable.

MAX'S

From Page 32

meltdown, while Bart Dacumos and Mike Estores delivered the two other field goals for the team that has yet to break into the win column in the Tsingtao Beer-sponsored league.

Gilas Batang tried to make up for its disappointing performance in the third period in the last quarter, but lacked the firepower to do so. Again, only Ege stood out for Gilas Batang in the fourth frame, while Max's had multiple options on offense to keep the big gap en route to the squad's first victory in the 12-team field.

Paynor led Max's with his 18 points, while Herrera, Lerio, and Patrick Salalila also finished in twin digits, making 15, 14, and 10, respectively. Ege was the lone double-figure scorer for Gilas Batang after logging 14 points.

Max's was slated to play its third match last night against Tsingtao Boyz, but the game was reset due to rain. Also rescheduled was the Pardz Ballers-Docomo Pacific tiff in the curtain-raiser, while weather permitting, Gilas Batang will take on Saipan Adventure in the second game at 8pm and Connie's BBQ will challenge Light & Salt in the opener at 6:30pm. To complete the weekend schedule, Tsingtao Boys will square off against RNV Construction in the first match tomorrow, while Mawati will face IT&E Dark in the second game.

Matches in the Once Pacific caging are played every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, but organizers may hold make-up games every Wednesday.

Max's 71—Paynor 18, Herrera 15, Lerio 14, Salalila 10, Balignasay 4, Flores 2, Tibayan 2.

Gilas Batang 52—Ege 14, Tibayan 9, Rosario 6, Hernandez 6, Estores 6, Dacumos 4, Carag 2, Acosta 2, Alviz 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-10, 24-27, 53-35, 71-52

CAROL

From Page 32

15-year-old Gibson won two tournaments in Australia. Her latest was the Mapei Gold Coast Junior International in Gold Coast last July 21 and incidentally, the finals victory was against Russell, 6-3, 6-7 (3), 7-5. Gibson also competed in the Rod Laver Queensland Junior Championships in Brisbane and defeated Malaysia's Sara Nayar in their title game last month, 1-6, 6-4, 6-0. Both events in Australia were Grade 4, while the Oceania Closed is ranked higher at Grade 2.

In the doubles event, there was no upset in the semis at the upper half of the bracket, as No. 1 seed Roopa Bains and Russell downed No. 3 Stevens and Lara Walker, 6-3, 1-6, 10-5. Bains and Russell will vie for the division title against the duo of Charlotte Kempenaers-Pocz and Elena Micic, who won the battle of unranked teams at the lower half of the draw after prevailing against Catherine Aulia and Vivian Yang, 6-4, 3-6, 10-6.

In the boys doubles finals, it will be No. 1 seed Cihan Akay and Nikita Volonski against No. 8 Tai Sach and Matthew Shearer. Akay is also in the championship game in singles and the No. 3 seed will challenge No. 2 Stefan Storch.

Meanwhile, after bowing out of competition in the Oceania Closed, Lee will head to New South Wales, Australia to play in another high-ranking event—the Grade 2 Australian Winter International.

In the Aussie tournament, Lee will be meeting several players that also competed in Fiji. The main draw will also feature players from Japan, New Zealand, and Malaysia.

CYCLING

From Page 32

finish, 1:07:01-1:07:02.

Other top placers in the road bike division were 40 and below's Justin Jones (1:07:53); 41 to 45's Nap Dizon (1:11:30); 46 to 50's Bob Ferrer (1:07:51); 51 to 55's Russ Quinn (1:09:12); 56 to 59's Floro Derexes (1:07:51); 60 and above's Loreto Dedoyco (1:17:41); women's open's J.C. Ferrer (1:07:50); 40 and below's Kathy Ruszala (1:27:33); and 46 to 50's Kimiko McKagan (1:14:46).

In the MTB category, Valdisimo's 1:13:16 earned him the top spot in the podium, while Ding Ramos and Bernard Laborce came in at second and third after recording 1:18:01 and 1:19:10, respectively.

Chris Dong ruled the 40 and below age group after clocking in at 1:20:05, while Hernan Cristobal (1:19:43), Matt Buenabajo (1:26:42), Norlo Jacosalem (1:30:51), and Pax Guevarra (1:20:32) were the top finishers in other categories.

After last Sunday's competition, NMICF will host three more events leading up to the 2019 Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race, which is scheduled for Dec. 7.

The second leg of the series will be held on Sept. 15 with a longer distance—46K. The event will still start and end at the former Mariana Resort with bikers rounding the Mobil Tanapag twice and also heading to Suicide Cliff and Bird Islands.

For the Pre-Hell of Marianas Series 3 slated for Oct. 29, it will have the longest course among the four legs—at 67K—as bikers will have to go through the five corners (Radar, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island, Grotto, and Banzai) three times and finish at Mariana Resort.

The finale of the series will take place on Nov. 17 and this time, participants will navigate through the 36K course that covers Mobil Tanapag, Radar, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island, Grotto, and Banzai Cliff.

Pujols sets career hit mark for foreign-born players

PAGE 28

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Talks on equal pay end without resolution

PAGE 29

Carol misses finals bid

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Carol Lee is heading to Australia for another tournament this weekend after completing her participation in the 2019 Oceania Closed Junior Championships yesterday at the International Tennis Federation Regional Training Center in Lautoka, Fiji.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Upset marked the semifinal round of the singles event in the 2019 Oceania Closed Junior Championships with the CNMI's Carol Lee and Australia's Natasha Russell losing to their lower-ranked opponents yesterday at the International Tennis Federation Regional Training Center in Lautoka, Fiji.

The No. 1 seed Lee was defeated by No. 3 Talia Gibson of Australia, while No. 7 Amy Stevens topped Russell, who is seeded second in the main draw. Lee, who was seeking a return trip to the finals, moved a set away from doing so when she eked out a 7-6 (5) win over Gibson in the first set. However, the Australian countered in the second set with a 6-4 triumph and completed the upset in the deciding third, 6-2, to oust Lee and set up a title showdown against Stevens.

The other semis game was also played in three sets with Stevens pulling off a 7-6 (3), 3-6, 6-3 victory. Stevens and Gibson will dispute the singles championship today with the latter aiming for her third straight title in a little over a month.

Before coming to Fiji, the

See CAROL on Page 31

Cycling group kicks off Pre-Hell Series

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Cycling Federation started its Pre-Hell of Marianas Series with Mark Isip and Noe Valdisimo leading the finishers list of last Sunday's race.

Isip was the fastest to complete the 31-kilometer course that had riders leaving the former Mariana Resort & Spa and heading to Mobil Tanapag, Suicide Cliff, Bird Island, and Banzai Cliff before going back to the start/finish line. He clocked in at 1:03:49 to top the road bike category of the Pre-Hell of Marianas Series 1. Isip was more than three minutes ahead of Cesar Fortaleza, who edged Dencio Bautista in a down-to-the-wire

See CYCLING on Page 31

CONTRBUTED PHOTO
Bikers pose for a photo before heading out to the course during last Sunday's Pre-Hell of Marianas Series 1 in Marpi.

Max's enters win column

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Max's Restaurant came back strong from its debut loss in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League after routing Gilas Batang, 71-52, last weekend at the Civic Center Court in Susupe.

Max's, which lost to RNV Construction early this month, 49-67, quickly recovered after a third-quarter surge against the reeling Gilas Batang. The penultimate period started with Max's behind by 3, 24-27, as it was held to its lowest output in the game—9 markers.

Then a 29-point production in the third period was way more than enough to bring Max's back into the driver's seat, as it gained full control of the match, 53-35. Sonny Lerio and Riel Paynor teamed up for Max in the pivotal third canto, as they each scored 10 points in the rally. Ogie Herrera and Josh Balignasay also helped out, adding 4 markers apiece.

While Max's was on target in the third quarter, Gilas Batang struggled with its offense after making only four field goals. Only Alken Ege knocked in more than one basket in Gilas Batang's

See MAX'S on Page 31

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Connie's BBQ's Darwin Barbo, third left, wins the battle for the rebound against Pardz Ballers players during their game in the 2019 One Pacific Promotional Basketball League last Tuesday at the Civic Center Court in Susupe. Connie's BBQ is scheduled to return to the court this weekend, while Pardz match against Docomo last night was reset due to rain.